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Daring to Dream in 2016



Standing on the cusp of this New Year, I wonder what all God has planned for my life this year.

He spoke very specifically to me at the end of 2014 about the year that would come in 2015. I have stood amazed, watching as His plans for me unfolded before my eyes. God took the initiative. He made the plans. I joined Him in them. He revived old dreams and birthed new ones in my heart.

As He intends for our lives to go from one level of glory to another, I pause to listen to what He will say for this next year expecting it to be full of His plans.

I ponder, at times, if I fully accessed all He had planned for 2015, knowing that He does His work in and through us.

I know that, in some ways, I got distracted. Didn't always follow through. Didn't keep my eyes on the main things. Yet I saw His hands consistently working. His power displayed.

I reflect on Proverbs 19:21. "Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails."

I've been studying the life of Joseph during the last week. God deposited a dream into Joseph's heart when he was 17 years old. Joseph shared his dream with his brothers and they hated him for it because they correctly interpreted the dream to mean that Joseph would have dominion over them. He dreamed another dream and shared it with his family. While his father rebuked him but wondered on the meaning of the dreams, his brothers hated him.

Joseph would begin a long, painful journey of being rejected by his brothers, thrown into a pit, taken into a foreign country, sold into slavery and eventually thrown in prison. Time after time, God favored Joseph and moved in his life to place him right in the middle of God's purposes. The painful journey ultimately ended with Joseph's dreams literally happening right in front of his eyes.

What his brothers had no way of knowing in those early days was that God was going to work through all the dysfunction, envy, hate, jealousy, and favoritism to bring about a much greater purpose. A big plan. A God plan. A plan that would be used to save Joseph's entire family and even a nation from disaster.

Later Joseph said to his brothers, "You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good" (Genesis 50:20).

And while I am not comparing my life to Joseph's in scope, I do believe that God has done for me what He did for Joseph and so many others. He has worked through the good, the bad, and the ugly to perform His Kingdom purposes.

What is He saying to you for 2016? Take time to listen, to reflect, to ask Him. What dreams has He placed in your heart? Believe that He is doing more than you can see. Accept that He has a plan and it is a good one. No circumstance, no failure, no evil in the heart of others can prevail against His ultimate plans.

Believe.

Dream for 2016 and watch God unfurl His plans over your life.

You can also find this article published on [Daring to Dream in 2016](#), and on the tag pages [Genesis](#), [Happy New Year](#), [Joseph](#), [plans](#), [purposes](#).