

Are you a spiritual person? Series (7) Follow Your Dreams; Jeremiah 29:10-14.

How do we understand the role of dreams and visions in our world today?

I believe that God reveals himself in many ways including **Dreams & Visions**.

*For God does speak—now one way, now another— though no one perceives it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls on people as they slumber in their beds... **Job 33:14-15***

Dream: *Series of images, emotions, and sensations occurring involuntarily in the mind during stages of sleep.*

Our brain is a microprocessor, resolving, organizing, and processing information in our sleep. Dreams are a natural part of God's design. Also, a natural vehicle God may use.

Biblical Dreams: Genesis and Matthew. There was a cluster of **dreams** related to Jesus' birth. **Joseph** to take Mary to be his wife. **Magi** was told to return a different way. **Mary & Joseph** were told to go to Egypt. Similarly, Pontius Pilates's wife warned Pilate after having a dream about Jesus.

God's primary method to reveal himself is through the Bible and Prayer guided by the Holy Spirit.

Just as God commands the spiritual forces of good, so the devil directs the forces of darkness. **Be watchful and alert.**

My takeaway from dreams in the Bible: God sometimes uses the natural vehicle of dreams to speak and when he does, it is often to give peace, bring caution, reveal direction... **BUT... Jesus and the Gospel are always at the center of the revelation.**

Graduates: **Follow Your Dreams**. "Follow your imagination". "Bring your dreams to life". But we often fail to impress on our graduates that dreams are fleeting and temporary without Jesus as the center.

If God interrupts your dreams, LISTEN. 1983. God called me into ministry. I gave up my dreams and followed. God speaks in many ways, but Jesus is always at the center.

*For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you. **Jeremiah 29:11-14a***

Follow the paths that God places before you. God may reveal himself through dreams... but it is always an invitation into God's plan.

The question is not: Can God speak through dreams? He spoke through a donkey, a burning bush, and a voice from heaven. A better question is: Am I listening and am I prepared to obey? Is God calling Christian vocation? To lead a ministry? To surrender your life to Him today?