

WELCOME HOME

Announcements

- **401 Small Group Training** – Sunday November 24th, 5:00–7:00pm at the Little Creek Campus in Globe 345. This is your opportunity to learn how to help people grow in their relationship with God. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register.
- **101 Starting Point** – Sunday, December 1st, 5:00 pm at all campuses. Starting Point is the first step toward getting involved at Church of the King by learning about the vision and mission of the church. Register at www.churchoftheking.com/register.

Warm-up

What was your experience the first time you had the opportunity to worship in the new building at the Little Creek Campus? Why do you think your experience was like this?

What have you accomplished in your life that took a long time to do? How did you feel when you finally completed your project?

Today we are going to discuss the power of a fulfilled dream when we trust in God.

Word & Application

Read Psalm 126:1-6. To give some historical context, as we learn from the book of Daniel, the children of Israel in 586 B.C. were taken over by the Babylonians. It was these people that were taken into captivity by the Babylonian King, Nebuchadnezzar. In one day they were taken from the comfort of their homes in Jerusalem and led away into captivity to Babylon, modern day Iraq. The Israelites were taken to live in a foreign land, and yet they never lost their dream and yearning to one day return home to Jerusalem. Psalm 126 is an account capturing the people's excitement when they returned home.

Have you ever lived far away from where you grew up (college, job, military, etc.)? What was your experience like the first time you went back home to visit?

For the rest of our discussion today we are going to look at how God kept the Israelites dream of going home alive and how we can keep our God-given dreams alive.

First, let's look at three keys to help us know if our dream is from God.

- 1) It's bigger than you.
- 2) It's impossible to accomplish without God's help.
- 3) It cannot be put-off, ignored or forgotten.

Read Psalm 126:1. The children of Israel never lost sight of the dream God put in their heart to build a home in their homeland of Jerusalem. Is there a dream God has placed in your heart that seems far away, but you continue to believe for it to come to pass?

Read Psalm 126:2-4. Just to give some geographical context, the southern area of Israel is called Beersheba. It was a harsh desert. There was very little joy in the desert. But, in the spring, the rains would come and the whole valley would turn green. The rains would literally change the arid desert from nothing to everything in just a short amount of time. It was a turn-around situation. In a similar way, just when they thought they would be in captivity forever and the dream would die, God did a miracle and turned everything around and delivered them.

How does this portion of scripture (Psalm 126:2-4) bring you encouragement about the fulfillment of God's dream in your life?

Read Romans 8:28. Please share an example of how God worked a seemingly difficult/painful situation to work out for His best for you.

Read Psalm 126:5-6. To once again bring context, the Bible was written in an agrarian society. One of things they understood was sowing and reaping. They understood planting and harvesting. The psalmist makes the connection between all the years of crying out, of believing, and hoping, and then the day comes when they see the fruit of their prayers.

What seemingly impossible dream are you believing for and how can we pray for you and help you reach your God-given dream?

Prayer

Pray for each person to be able to see the God-given dreams in their lives fulfilled. Also, take time to ask for specific prayer requests from those in your small group.