

Grace and Faith

March 8, 2020

An Idea - Sermon Study

1. What were your initial impressions of the book... **What Do You Do With An Idea**? Did it stir up anything within you? Past **dreams, goals, visions** that have sat on the shelf?
2. How does God often **communicate** with us? Read **Num 12:6... Psa 16:7... Jer 29:11... Dan 7:13... Acts 2:14-36... Acts 18:9-10**. Give an **example** of how God has communicated to you that way.
3. Read **Judges 7** and **Matt 5:15-16**. How have you **hidden God's light** under a basket? Is it ever possible to **pick it up again** and shine it? Read **2Cor 5:17**.
4. Why is it important to **focus on things of God** and not the things of the world? Read **Prov 4:23... Prov 18:21... Prov 23:7... Isa 26:3... Matt 6:21... Matt 12:34... Rom 8:1-11**.
5. Think of the idea/dream/vision God has given you. Are you **afraid of pursuing** it because of what other people will say? Read **Josh 24:15... Matt 24:9-14... Mark 13:9-13... Gal 1:10... 1Thess 2:4**.
6. Why is it important **WHO you listen** to? Read **Gen 3... Luke 4... Jam 1... Prov 4:2-23... Jer 33:3... John 10:27-28**. Why is it important you're **involved with a church**? Read **Rom 12** and **1Cor 12:7**.
7. What would it take to **resurrect your dream**? Read **John 1:4... Rom 4:18... Rom 8:24-25... Eph 3:20... Heb 11:1**. Are you willing to **trust God**? How do you know you can? Read **Isa 55:11... Jer 1:1-12... Rom 1:16-17... Rom 4:17**. Go for it. He is **on your side**!!

Please read entire passages of scripture to get full context. See sermon notes for more info.

Sermon Notes
An Idea - Jeremiah 1:1-12

I. An Idea

- a. *one day, I had an idea... where did it come from, why is it here, I wondered... what do you do with an idea...* God gives ideas, dreams, visions (regardless of age)... to carry out His plans... to bless you...
Num 12:6... “I reveal myself in visions... speak to them in dreams...”
Psa 16:7... “the Lord guides me... during night I reflect and learn...”
Jer 29:11... “I know plans I have for you... prosper, hope, future...”
Dan 7:13... “in my vision... there was one like the Son of Man...”
Acts 2... “young men will see visions... old men dream dreams...”
Acts 18:9-10... “Lord spoke in vision... don’t be afraid, speak out...”
- b. *at first, I didn’t think much of it... it seemed strange and fragile... I didn’t know what to do with it... so I just walked away from it... I acted like it didn’t belong to me... but it followed me... ask Him for help...*
Psa 23:6... “goodness and mercy shall follow me (hunt me down) ...”
Eph 5... “give thanks, sing psalms... understand what God wants...”
James 1:5... “if you need wisdom, ask God... He will give it to you...”
- c. *I worried what others would think... what would people say about my idea... I kept it to myself... I hid it away and didn’t talk about it... I tried to act like everything was the same as it was before my idea showed up... when God, or God ideas show up, we’ll never be the same...*
Judges 7... “Gideon dream... broke jars with torches... victory...”
Matt 5:15-16... “no one lights a lamp and puts it under a basket...”
2Cor 5:17... “you are a new creation in Christ... old life is gone...”
- d. *but there was something magical about my idea... I had to admit, I felt better and happier when it was around... it wanted food, it wanted to play, it wanted a lot of attention... it grew bigger... whatever you give attention to is what will be produced in your life... you choose... focus on God ideas and those ideas will grow bigger and bigger...*
Prov 4:23... “guard your heart... it determines the course of your life...”
Prov 18:21... “words kill, give life... poison or fruit... you choose...”
Prov 23:7... “as a man thinks in his heart... so is he...”
Isa 26:3... “the mind that is fixed on you will be in perfect peace...”
Matt 6:21... “where your treasure is... your heart will be also...”
Matt 12:34... “out of the heart... the mouth speaks...”
Rom 8:1-11... “carnal mind is death... spiritual mind is life...”

Not every good idea is a God idea... but every God idea is a good idea.
Pastor Duane Sheriff

- e. *I showed it to other people even though I was afraid of what they would say... I was afraid if people saw it, they would laugh and think it was silly... many of them did... they said it was no good, too weird, waste of time, never become anything...* kinda like this sermon... faith is a fight (persecution real)... must choose who you follow... God or man...
 Josh 24:15... “as for me and my house... we will serve the Lord...”
 Matt 24:9-14... “kill you... hated by nations... take offense... betray...”
 Mark 13:9-13... “handed over... flogged... arrested... hated by all...”
 Gal 1:10... “am I trying to please people... or God...”
 1Thess 2:4... “entrusted with Gospel... speak to please God, not men...”
 John 5,8... “your approval or disapproval means nothing to me...”
- f. *at first, I believed them... I actually thought about giving up on my idea... I almost listened...* expect opposition, expect doubt... just don’t give in... sin is just believing God lies and devil tells truth (examples)...
 Gen 3... “did God really say... so they took the fruit and ate it...”
 Luke 4... “if you are the Son of God... Jesus answered, it is written...”
 Jam 1... “ask in faith, don’t doubt... doubter not receive anything...”
- g. *then I realized, what do they really know... this is MY idea, no one knows it like I do, and it’s okay if it’s different, weird, and crazy... I decided to protect it, care for it, fed it good food... gave it attention...*
 God has given YOU gifts no one else has... speaks to YOU... gives YOU ideas to bless others... church not complete without YOU...
 Prov 4... “pay attention to My words... listen closely...”
 Jer 33:3... “call to Me and I will answer you... tell you great things...”
 John 10:27-28... “My sheep hear My voice...”
 Rom 12... “many parts, one body... different gifts... use for body...”
 1Cor 12:7... “gift is given to each of us so we can help each other...”
- h. *my idea grew... so did my love for it... built a house where it could be safe to dream... encouraged me to think big... and then bigger... I couldn’t imagine life without it...* protect from hope killers (assassins)... hope brings faith alive which accesses grace to bring results...
 John 1:4... “in Him was life...”
 Rom 4:18... “against hope, with hope... did not waver in unbelief...”
 Rom 8:24-25... “who hopes for what he sees... wait with patience...”
 Eph 3:20... “He can do infinitely more than we ask or imagine...”
 Heb 11:1... “faith is reality of what is hoped for... proof of not seen...”
- i. *then, something amazing happened... my idea changed... it took flight... went from being here to being everywhere... not just a part of me, but a part of everything... what do you do with an idea... change the world...*
 Isa 55... “My word always produces fruit... accomplishes all I want...”
 Jer 1... “what do you see... _____... I hasten to perform it...”
 Rom 1... “not ashamed of Gospel... saves everyone who believes...”
 Rom 4:17... “God calls things into existence which do not yet exist...”

What Do You Do With An Idea?

by Kobi Yamada

One day, I had an idea. *Where did it come from? Why is it here?* I wondered, *what do you do with an idea?*

At first, I didn't think much of it. It seemed kind of strange and fragile. I didn't know what to do with it. So I just walked away from it. I acted like it didn't belong to me.

But it followed me.

I worried what others would think. What would people say about my idea? I kept it to myself. I hid it away and didn't talk about it. I tried to act like everything was the same as it was before my idea showed up.

But there was something magical about my idea. I had to admit, I felt better and happier when it was around.

It wanted food. It wanted to play. Actually, it wanted a lot of attention.

It grew bigger. And we became friends.

I showed it to other people even though I was afraid of what they would say. I was afraid that if people saw it, they would laugh at it. I was afraid they would think it was silly. And many of them did. They said it was no good. They said it was too weird. They said it was a waste of time and that it would never become anything.

And, at first, I believed them. I actually thought about giving up on my idea. I almost listened to them.

But then I realized, what do they really know? This is MY idea, I thought. No one knows it like I do. And it's okay if it's different, and weird, and maybe a little crazy. I decided to protect it, to care for it. I fed it good food. I worked with it, I played with it.
But most of all, I gave it my attention.

My idea grew and grew. And so did my love for it.

I built it a new house, one with an open roof where it could look up at the stars...
a place where it could be safe to dream.

I liked being with my idea. It made me feel more alive, like I could do anything. It encouraged me to think big... and then, to think bigger. It shared its secrets with me. It showed me how to walk on my hands. *Because, it said, it is good to have the ability to see things differently.*

I couldn't imagine my life without it.

Then, one day, something amazing happened.
My idea changed right before my very eyes.
It spread its wings, took flight, and burst into the sky.

I don't know how to describe it, but it went from being here to being everywhere. It wasn't just a part of me anymore... it was now a part of everything.

And then, I realized what you do with an idea...
You change the world.