

PRECEPT

PROVERBS 13:20

²⁰ Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble.

PROVERBS 3:5-6

⁵ ...do not rely on your own understanding. ⁶ Always let him lead you, and he will clear the road for you to follow.

PROVERBS 28:26

²⁶ Those who trust in themselves are fools, but those who walk in wisdom are kept safe.

PROMISE

Your dreams are worthless unless you wake up and do something about them. No one will chase your dreams but you. No one will do it for you, so you better wake up and start doing something.

The Bible is filled with people who are bold decision-makers that we can learn from. Noah was tasked to save the world from the flood and built the ark. Abraham left the comforts of his home and stepped out into the unknown in order to be the father of a great nation. Moses dreamt about leading the children of Israel out of four hundred years of slavery and confronted the Pharaoh in order for this to happen. The disciples were called by Jesus and left their homes and jobs to join Jesus in the ministry. It is up to us to advocate for our dreams and make our lives worth living. Let us be wise in making decisions and make careful considerations for our dreams to come true.

Achieving our dreams requires working with God. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us not to rely on our own understanding and let the Lord lead us. When we follow Him, He will clear the road for us. We must always start with God and get His perspective regarding our dreams. We must follow His plan, His will, and His ways. Let us spend time with Him and be willing to listen and obey Him.

Another important factor is to identify the facts. We are to gather information, weigh the evidences, and choose the best alternatives when we're trying to work for our dreams. Proverbs 18:13 says, *"What a shame—yes, how stupid!—to decide before knowing the facts!"* Another thing to do is to seek advice. According to Proverbs 20:18, *"Plans are established by seeking advice; don't go to war without wise advice."* We are to surround ourselves with wise advisors. Decisions have consequences, that is why it's important to seek wise advice before going through big decisions in life. Proverbs 13:20 tells us, *"Walk with the wise and become wise; associate with fools and get in trouble."* It will provide us proper guidance and protection from wrong decisions. Lastly, we are to eliminate fear. Fear is at the root of all indecision. A lot of times, there is fear because we are afraid to commit mistakes, fail, or embarrass ourselves. We can also be afraid of commitment, to stay consistent in working for our dreams. Ecclesiastes 11:4 says, *"If you wait for perfect conditions, you will never get anything done."* The truth is, perfectionism paralyzes potential. Remember what Rick Warren said, *"God uses imperfect people, in imperfect situations, with imperfect tools, at imperfect times, to get His perfect will done."*

Proverbs 11:30 reminds us, *"The one who is wise saves lives."* Not making a decision is a decision. Let us be wise and do something great for the sake of Christ and His kingdom. When we decide to chase our dreams, we will inspire others to do the same. Let us dream big and decide strong!

PRACTICE

1. Chasing Your Dreams. What can you do differently this week in order to make your dreams come true? How can you apply the things you learned today in chasing your dreams?

2. God's Glory. How can your dreams and goals this year bring glory to God?

PRAYER

I. Life Link

- Pray that our ushers will serve our brethren gracefully & be filled with the Holy Spirit.

II. Life Kids

- Pray for more dedicated volunteers who will teach our children the Word of God.

III. Life Worship

- May they continue to wholeheartedly serve God and His people.

IV. Life Sports

- Thank God for a healthy body, athletic abilities, and the gift of sports.

V. Giving

- May we selflessly and sacrificially give to those underprivileged & in need.

VI. Church

- Pray for protection & unity for God's church.

VII. Members

- Pray for our community to grow in relationship with God & each other.