

Introduction: We all dream dreams and experience the pain of shattered dreams.

- Our childhood dreams
- Our adult dreams
- Our mid-life dreams
- Our later-year dreams

The Question: How do we respond to our “shattered dreams?”

1. We must face our shattered dreams.

2. We need to understand our shattered dreams.

○ Dreams are built on _____. Philippians 1:27

○ Dreams flow from three **universal** _____.

▪ The longing to be intimately known and loved.

▪ The longing for a “better tomorrow.”

▪ The longing to “leave a legacy.”

○ Dreams built around _____

in an _____ that we

cannot control, eventually, almost always “shatter.”

3. We can grow from our shattered dreams:

Shattered dreams can lead to transformed lives because...

1. God wants to fulfill your dream of being intimately known and loved just for who you are.

¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know Him better.

Ephesians 1:15-17

How? Ask the Father to _____ Himself to you!

2. God wants to fulfill your dream of having a “better tomorrow.”

¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in the saints,

Ephesians 1:18

How? Ask the Father to give you an _____.

3. God wants to fulfill your dream of “leaving a legacy” in this world.

¹⁹ and His incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of His mighty strength, ²⁰ which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

²² And God placed all things under His feet and appointed Him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:19-23

How? Ask the Father to help you _____ the supernatural power available to you today!

Discussion Questions:

1. What “shattered dream” has impacted your life?
2. Why is it important to understand how our dreams get formulated in our hearts and minds? What place have unrealistic expectations played in your shattered dreams?
3. Why is it equally important to know that God longs to meet our deepest longings and fill the vacuum of those shattered dreams? Do you think our “shattered dreams” sometimes help us realize our real need for God and a relationship with Him?
4. What role does intercessory prayer have in us experiencing in our daily life what God has accomplished for us in Christ?
5. Discuss as a group the three statements given in the conclusion of this message. What would it look like in your life to:
 - 1) Allow God’s love to heal your heart?
 - 2) Fix your hope on His promises for your future?
 - 3) Dream a God-sized dream that will demand God-sized resources?

Resources:

Overcoming Emotions that Destroy by Chip Ingram
Rebuilding Your Broken World by Chip Ingram

