

Dream Killers

September 23, 2026

Chapter 4—"Dream Your Way Out"

INTRO: page 31, 2nd paragraph... "The thing I find so awesome about God is His ability to transform obstacles into opportunities. God uses everything—even your difficulties—in the great recipe of life to develop your destiny. Your worst and most painful times can become tools in His hands to birth great things in your life. Your most disastrous and heart-wrenching moments can actually become tremendous seasons of dream development."

- "OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES... God uses everything"
- Fill in the blanks... Even though _____, I will continue to believe (dream) that God can _____.

Back Story: Joseph is THIS Joseph... Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

- Abraham- Abraham's (then Abram) story begins in Genesis 12. But let's briefly touch chapters 15 and 16 where God promises Abraham in verse 5 of chapter 15, "Then He brought him outside and said, 'Look now toward heaven, and count the stars if you are able to number them.' And He said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.'"
- But chapter 16 tells us that Sarai became impatient with the fact that no children were being produced by her and Abraham; thus, deciding to take matters into her own hands. Read 16:2-6... so much drama- this could have been a soap opera
- Even in all the bad choices of Abraham and Sarah, God still performs His Word over Abraham because God's Word is settled and He will bring it to pass. Chapter 17 is a reminder of this over Abraham's life.
- In chapter 21, Isaac is given to Abraham and Sarah in their old age.
- Isaac- the same Isaac that God asked for Abraham to sacrifice. Abraham's obedience is tremendous but his faith in God's fulfillment of promise is also great as we read in 22:5, where Abraham tells the servants to wait at the base of the mountain because "the lad and I will go yonder and worship, and we will come back to you."
- So Isaac marries Rebekah and in 25:21-28 the Bible builds a narrative of a divided household and escalates as Jacob and Rebekah come up with a plan to take the birth right of the older son, Esau, by preying on his hunger after a long day's work. Years later, Jacob and Rebekah again plot to rob the blessing from Esau by tricking their father, Isaac, into giving it to Jacob instead of Esau—taking advantage of his old age and weakened sight. This caused the family to be divided as Jacob had to flee from Esau's wrath.

- Jacob- wasn't simply a victim. He made his own very bad choices reminding us that

Sometimes we are thrown into situations because someone else put us there. While other times, we make our own beds and are forced to lay in them. Neither of these scenarios forces God to abandon the dream over your life.

Jacob, after fleeing Esau, ends up at his mother's brother's home (laban is the uncle). There, Jacob falls in love with Rachel and works 7 years for her hand in marriage only to be duped by his uncle into marrying the older daughter, Leah. He works another 7 years for Rachel and ends up with both of these wives—giving us a new drama series “Sister Wives”.

Which leads us right up to Joseph—Jacob's son by Rachel, his favorite wife and thus, his favorite son. Joseph, however, did not ask for this to be put upon him. It's just the course of events that lead him to be despised by his brothers.

- But, learn something from this: Joseph received or inherited a history of family rivalry, but he did not inherit the response.
- The pattern did not become his practice.
- He did not reproduce the chaos.
- And even though he did not hold responsibility for much of what happened to him, Joseph chose response after response that changed the course of choices from generations before he was born.

But, here's the kicker! Joseph had a dream from God and all the while his life was on a course for years that appeared opposite to the dream.

(2nd paragraph, page 31)... OBSTACLES INTO OPPORTUNITIES- God uses everything.

The dream was given to Joseph before he was ever thrown into the pit.

See, the pit was just a hole in the ground until Joseph was thrown into it.

After that, the pit had a purpose.

DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU ARE OUT OF THE PIT TO DREAM! You might be waiting all of your life.

Dream while you're in the pit because Jim Raley says, “Your most disastrous and heart-wrenching moments can actually become tremendous seasons of dream development.”

- Fill in the blank: Even though all I can see is _____, I will believe (dream) that God has seen _____.

The chapter's title is "dream your way out".

Joseph came from a long line of family drama. He was raised in a home where division and manipulation and back biting were prevalent. But Joseph chose a different way.

And because God needed the Dreamer to walk out of the past and the problems in order for the dream to be fulfilled, Joseph had to make different choices. His view of the pit had to be a search for the purpose.

Read page 32 ("What he perceived as antagonism", - "the trouble because it's time to dream.")

Read page 33, first paragraph "plainly stated... it was the dilemma that developed the dreamer."

- Even though Joseph's location changed. His neighbors changed. The people he shared space with changed.
 - Joseph's responses and consistency to see the dream did not change.
 - God is in your hardest places even when you don't know it.
 - Page 36 at the bottom "Jacob dreamed his way out before the road became clear. That's how you do it. You dream before the road is clear. You dream before you know which way to turn. You dream before you know where you're headed. You dream your way out!"
 - Don't let where you are determine who you are.
 - Say that again, don't let where you determine who you are.
 - Dream again. Dream now. Dream big.
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- It's almost as if Joseph had a revelation of Jesus saying, "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly."
 - Can you imagine Joseph saying to himself or even writing it with his finger in the pit, My dream will not be stolen. My dream will not be killed. My dream will not be destroyed. This dream will produce abundant life."
 - I wonder if somewhere on those prison walls is Joseph's etch with some ancient tool speaking life over the dream, preserving the dream, remembering that the dream is bigger than the circumstance.

- Fill in the blank: Even when _____ tries to destroy the dream God placed in me, I will continue to believe that He can use _____ to build me for the purpose of the dream.
- Look ahead to Genesis 50:20 when Joseph is seated in the position that gives him a bird's eye view of the fulfilled dream... he said to his brothers, "But as for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive."
- Read pages 38 and 39 highlighted in green.
- Fill in the blank: Even though _____ was meant to stop me, I choose to believe that God is still working through me to bring about _____.
- Your circumstance can describe where you are without describing where you are going.
- The pain is not the purpose but God works through that pain to prepare us for the purpose.
- Dream your way out!