

LIVING OUT your DREAM

-By Pastor Nkechi Ene-

Part 1



1 Then it came to pass, at the end of two full years, that Pharaoh had a dream; and behold, he stood by the river.

2 Suddenly there came up out of the river seven cows, fine looking and fat; and they fed in the meadow.

3 Then behold, seven other cows came up after them out of the river, ugly and gaunt, and stood by the other cows on the bank of the river.

4 And the ugly and gaunt cows ate up the seven fine looking and fat cows. So Pharaoh awoke.

5 He slept and dreamed a second time; and suddenly seven heads of grain came up on one stalk, plump and good.

6 Then behold, seven thin heads, blighted by the east wind, sprang up after them.

7 And the seven thin heads devoured the seven plump and full heads. So Pharaoh awoke, and indeed, it was a dream.

8 Now it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled, and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them for Pharaoh.

Genesis 41:1-8 (NKJV)

There are people who are living out their dreams who can help you and yet preserve the uniqueness of your own dream.

All who have God-given dreams want to live them out because it is not good for a dream to perpetually remain in the dream realm. Our text is an interesting one and I want you to take out time to read the entire story (Genesis 41:1-57). It tells us how Pharaoh had a dream and he was troubled. In this article and the next, we will be learning the things Pharaoh did to move from the troubled spirit realm to the realm of living out his dream.

A Dream Established By God

Pharaoh had the dream twice. *“Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, the dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do”* (Genesis 41:25). The dream was established by God, and as a result God brought it to pass (Genesis 41:32). When Pharaoh had the dream, he was troubled but God brought him an answer of peace through Joseph (Genesis 41:16).

Sometimes, our dreams trouble us, and it’s not because the dreams are not from God. However, in the midst of such trouble, if our dreams are established by God, He always gives us an answer of peace, prosperity, completeness, wholeness – an answer of “nothing missing; nothing broken.” Then we can relax in the answer of peace that He gives, and we can live out our dreams. Hallelujah!

God Has Prepared Men To Help You

The first thing you must do is to recognize that God has prepared men to help you. As God gave you that dream, He also prepared men to help you live out and fulfill it. These men fall into two categories. The first category is men who have had their own dreams fulfilled.

9 Then the chief butler spoke to Pharaoh, saying: “I remember my faults this day.

10 When Pharaoh was angry with his servants, and put me in custody in the house of the captain of the guard, both me and the chief baker,

11 we each had a dream in one night, he and I. Each of us dreamed according to the interpretation of his own dream.

12 Now there was a young Hebrew man with us there, a servant of the captain of the guard. And we told him, and he interpreted our dreams for us; to each man he interpreted according to his own dream.

13 And it came to pass, just as he interpreted for us, so it happened. He restored me to my office, and he hanged him.”

Genesis 41:9-13

Pharaoh was the “almighty one” at that time, he was the king, but God had prepared the chief butler to help him. What was important about the chief butler was he also had a dream and was at that time living out his dream.

If you have a dream, I want you to know that there is at least one person who has had his own dream fulfilled and if you can only come in contact with such a person, God would use that person to show you the direction in living out your own dream. Sometimes, those men are the most unusual men. Can you imagine Pharaoh calling the chief butler who was just coming out of the prison to receive directions from him? Were it not for the directions from the chief butler, Pharaoh would not have lived out his dream.

Some people have great dreams but are not living out their dreams because they are trying to reinvent every wheel along the way. There are some wheels that people ahead of you have already invented and have used and left on the path. It’s just for you to come along and use the same pattern – even if you think your dream is unique and different. Maybe you have a dream to be a Pastor and the only other person you can see who is living out his dream is a businessman. As such, you think there is no link. Think about it: the butler and the baker didn’t have the same dream; the butler and Pharaoh didn’t have the same dream. The butler said, *“We each had a dream in one night”* (Genesis 41:11), but Joseph who interpreted their dreams still preserved the uniqueness of their dreams. This means that,

“When God has given people gifts to help you live out your dream, your dream will become the avenue for the full expression of their gifts.”



there are people who are living out their dreams who can help you and yet preserve the uniqueness of your own dream.

Irrespective of the uniqueness of your dreams, if you can only learn from your pastor, you will find out that he is not likely going to teach you how to be a pastor, No! He will teach you the same principles that worked for him and those same principles can help you become successful in whatsoever your dream might be.

15 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I have had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. But I have heard it said of you that you can understand a dream, to interpret it.”
Genesis 41:15

The second category of men God has prepared to help you live out and fulfill your dream is men who have gifts suited for your dream. When Pharaoh had his dream, he went to the magicians. This means that the magicians had in the past interpreted dreams for him. The magicians’ ability to interpret dreams was not in dispute; but for this particular dream, the magicians were not the ones suited to help him.

Let me say this: a loner will never live out his dream, not because the dream did not come from God, but because he is violating the first principle above. A loner is one who stays alone, one who dreams alone and interprets and acts out his dream alone. If you really have a dream, then you must come in contact with the men who have fulfilled their dreams and men whom God has given special grace and gifts to enable you live out your dream.

Look at Kirk Franklin. I believe there was a time when Kirk Franklin had a dream of having the kind of ministry he has today, but Kirk Franklin’s ministry is incomplete without those special singers that he sings

with. Each of those special singers have enough gifts or enough grace to stand out and have their own dreams. When God has given people gifts to help you live out your dream, your dream will become the avenue for the full expression of their gifts. Without your dream they could never have fully lived out their own dreams. Where would Joseph’s gift have been if Pharaoh didn’t have a dream? It would have been in the dungeon. Where would Pharaoh’s dream have been without Joseph? It would have remained in a troubled spirit.

Empower People

Pharaoh knew he needed men to help him fulfill his dream. One of those men was the chief butler. When he found the chief butler, Pharaoh didn’t look at the chief butler’s size, history, background or qualifications. He simply received directions from the chief butler which when he followed, he came in contact with the Joseph, the man God had prepared with the gift to interpret his dream. When he recognized that Joseph was the man God had prepared to help him live out his dream, he empowered him.

Some businessmen find it difficult to grow their businesses because they have major insecurity problems and wouldn’t empower their staff. They do everything by themselves even when they are not trained to do such. Realize that God sent your staff to school to help you. Empower them! Pharaoh didn’t hand over everything to Joseph; he kept the part that reminded him that he was the vision bearer. Rather, he empowered Joseph by giving him his signet ring, which was a symbol of his authority. He recognized that magicians with gifts surrounded him, but Joseph’s gifts were prepared for his dream. He was not insecure about empowering him.

39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you.

40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you.”

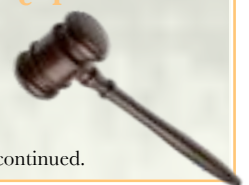
Genesis 41:39-40

If you are the chief executive of a company, you need to let your managers grow to the point where they can act on your behalf. That shows that you have the confidence that you and your manager have met in secret and now share the same dream. Why? When you got your manager you shared your dream with him, then you shared the dream with the whole staff, but you called your manager aside and shared ideas to the point where you can see his or her gifts and experiences and can trust him or her with the authority to act according to your dream. That doesn’t remove anything from you as the chief executive officer, rather, what it does is that it enables you relax and dream again.

Many churches are not growing because the vision bearer or the Presiding Pastor cannot release any authority to anybody else. He has to do everything and so the vision stagnates with him. Some husbands are so stingy they refuse to discuss their finances with their wives. They hide what they have from their wives. (However, wisdom is needed, because there are some women whom if you tell them what you have, they will drain you dry. No, I’m not talking about those sorts of women. I am talking about the ones who have been sent to their husbands as their help meet.)

In order to live out your dreams, you have to learn to empower those whom God has sent to help you fulfill your dreams.

**E m p o w e r
P e o p l e !**



To be continued.