

Dreamality

"Last night I got double rest. I dreamed I was sleeping."

"Some men see things as they are and ask why. I dream things that never were and say, why not?" —George Bernard Shaw

"Somewhere between childhood and adulthood, many of us let go of our dreams. We stop trusting that anything will be different. We stop hoping that anything could get better. We stop expecting life to be full of excitement, anticipation, joy, fun, and hope. Optimism is replaced by anger, frustration, and bitterness. But it doesn't have to be that way."

—Bob Coy

"The best dreams are those that happen with your eyes wide open."

Read Genesis 37:3-8

Dreams Need Definition

"A dream is a wish your heart makes."

—Jiminy Cricket

Dreams involve more than a desire; they require decision. Decision and direction come from varied sources:

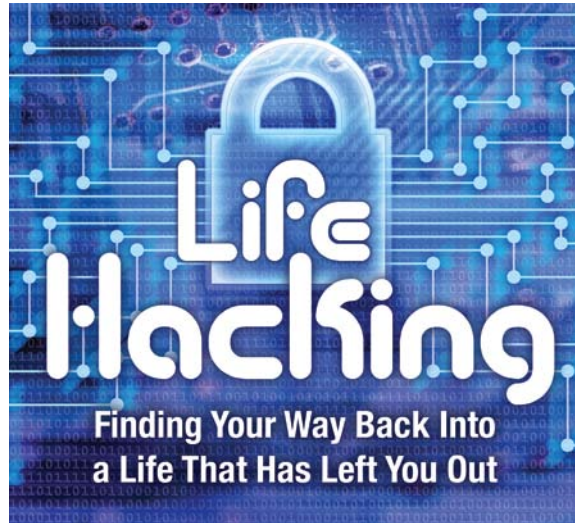
- **Passions** that drive you
- **Experiences** that shape you
- **Knowledge** that reinforces you
- **Beliefs** that hold you

Dreams Face Refinement

Read Genesis 39

Joseph made some hard choices and that presented difficult consequences. However, his choices were wise and ultimately brought success. Joseph refused to defeat himself by making poor choices and taking short cuts.

"It isn't the dream that gets tested—it's the dreamer. When God gives a dream, there's nothing wrong with it. But the dreamer probably needs a lot of work." —Don Murren



"God never simply buries our dead and broken dreams because He'd be burying our hearts along with our dreams. Instead, He creatively turns our failures into fertilizer for an even more wonderful dream, a dream with even more potential to become fruition."

—Noni Tari

Dreams Involve Relationships

"The way to get what you want in life is to help other people to get what they want in life." —Zig Ziglar

You need people to help facilitate your dream. Dreams don't happen in a vacuum.

"...the Lord was with Joseph..." —Genesis 39:23

Dreams Develop Incrementally

It took a long time for Joseph's dream to be fulfilled, but each step in his journey was part of the dream fulfillment.

Dreams May Delay

If you don't experience the fulfillment of your dream, it doesn't mean that you don't achieve it in life. History is full of biographies of people whose dreams were fulfilled beyond their lifetime.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers... and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom Jesus was born, who is called Christ. —Matthew 1:2, 16

But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good... —Genesis 50:20 ESV