



Leader Guide Session 1

Key Verse

"Everything is possible for the person who has faith." – Mark 9:23 GNT

Lesson Outline

"Everything is possible for the person who has faith." - MARK 9:23 GNT

"According to your faith let it be done to you." - MATTHEW 9:29 NIV

Without faith it is impossible to please God. – HEBREWS 11:6 NIV

The Six Phases of Faith:

Phase 1: _____ Nothing happens in your life until you start dreaming.

How to Know If a Dream Is from God:

1. God's dream will always _____

God... is able to do far more than we would dare to ask or even dream of -infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. - EPHESIANS 3:20 TLB

If a dream comes from God, it's going to be so big, you can't do it on your own. You can only do it by faith.

Without faith it is impossible to please God. - HEBREWS 11:6 NIV

2. God's dream will never _____.

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Phase 2: _____

Nothing is going to happen to your dream until you wake up and put it in action.

The Decision Phase:

1. You must _____

2. You must _____

Phase 3: _____ _ There is always a waiting period between dream and fulfillment.

"These things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, do not despair, for these things will surely come to pass. Just be patient! They will not be overdue a single day!" – HABAKKUK 2:3 TLB

God will not fulfill your dream immediately. Why? Because God wants to work on you before he works on the project.

Phase 4: _____ _ God uses difficulties to work on your faith and character.

At present you may be temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials. This is no accident-it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold. - PETER 1:6-7 PHILLIPS

Phase 5: _____ _ Dead ends are a part of God's plan for your life.

At that time, we were completely overwhelmed, the burden was more than we could bear, in fact we told ourselves that this was the end. Yet we believe now that we had this experience of coming to the end of our tether that we might learn to trust, not in ourselves, but in God who can raise the dead. - 2 CORINTHIANS 1:8-9 PHILLIPS

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They said to Moses ... "We told you to leave us alone and leave us alone and let us go on being slaves of the Egyptians. It would be better to be slaves than to die here in the desert.
EXDODUS 14:11-12 GNT

Dead ends are a part of God's plan for your life.

He has rescued us...and he will rescue us in the future. We are confident that he will continue to rescue us. - 2 CORINTHIANS 1:10 GW

I am expecting the Lord to rescue me again, so that once again I will see his goodness to me.
PSALM 27:13 TLB

Phase 6: _____

The best response to a dead end is to expect God to act. What are you expecting God to do in your life?

Where God guides, God provides.

Discussion Questions:

1. Which phase of faith are you currently in? Briefly explain your answer.
2. Of all the people you know personally, who do you believe has the strongest faith God? Why is their faith so strong?
3. How does God's dream go beyond anything you could ever think up or imagine on your own?
4. When you understand the six phases of faith – dream, decision, delays, difficulties, dead ends, and deliverance – it prepares you for all that God wants to do in your future. Why is this so?

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Prayer Direction

In what area of your life do you need your faith to be strengthened? Share your prayer requests, and then pray for each other. Use the Small Group Prayer and Praise Report beginning on page 95 to keep track of your requests.

Putting It into Practice

As you conclude this session, in what ways do you want God to help you grow spiritually and emotionally while you are pursuing his dream for your life?