



Adapting to a Bigger Dream (Luke 1:26-33)

December 21-22, 2019

Note: Mary dreamed to love God and marry the man of her dreams. This dream changed in front of her eyes and required something she never imagined.

Quote: “Adapting to the changing environment or circumstances so that new possibilities arise for accurately **seeing, understanding** and **facing challenges** with **new actions**. Just as an **organism must adapt** in order to thrive in a changing environment, so **organizations need to adapt to the changing world around them *without losing their core*** identity, ***their reason for being***, their **core values** and purpose. **This kind of leadership is complex and fraught with loss, fears and anxiety, causing us to feel off-balance and insecure.** But it is the essence of leadership in a changing world.”

Source: Canoeing the Mountains: Christian Leadership In Uncharted Territory: by Tod E. Bolsinger

Video: <https://youtu.be/6LSKPIY-Xnc>

Introduction: Series Review of Dreaming Again

A. Manage Your Dreams (Part 1)

- You must learn how to **manage** your dreams without abandoning your principles (Watch your attitude)

Question: How well do you manage your temperament?

B. Define Your Dreams (Part 2)

- You must learn to clearly **define** your dreams and refuse to retreat once you are clear (Watch your choices)

Question: Do you look like where you say you are going?

C. Adapting to a Bigger Dream (Part 3)

- You must learn to **adjust** when your dream changes and everything around you goes in a different direction

Question: How good are you at changing directions when the unexpected happens?

Today’s Big Question: How do you manage a dream that you never had for your life?

I. Three Dreams Mary Never Had for Her Life (Luke 1:26–33)

1. She never dreamed she would be chosen by God for a **special assignment**
 2. She never dreamed of having an **unexplainable issue** (The virgin birth; Matthew 1:21)
 3. She never dreamed of having a **complicated engagement**
- 26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. 28 And having come in, **the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!”**



- 29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to her, “**Do not be afraid**, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”
- 34 Then Mary said to the angel, “**How can this be**, since I do not know a man?” 35 And the angel answered and said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 For with God **nothing will be impossible.**” 38 Then Mary said, “**Behold the maidservant of the Lord!** Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her. (Luke 1:26–38, NKJV)

II. How Mary Responded To The Bigger Dream (Luke 1:26–38, NKJV)

1. She **listened** even when not clear (v26-33)
2. She put her **fears** in check (v30)
3. She kept her moral **convictions** (v34)
4. She was willing to be a **servant** (v38)

III. Three Big Questions That Might Help You With Your Dream (My Dream Journey)

Question: What has come up in your life that you never dreamed would happen?

1. I never dreamed to be a **teacher/preacher**
2. I never dreamed to be **married and have a family**
3. I never dreamed to **manage large amounts of money**
4. I never dreamed to have or **manage a full-time staff**
5. I never dreamed to be an **entrepreneur**

Question: What did I dream in my early days before 15 years old?

1. I dreamed of a 9-5 job that paid me a salary they set
2. I dreamed of a beautiful girl friend I could live with (not a wife)
3. I dreamed of being good at basketball (But, never wanted to be in the NBA)

Question: What changed and broadened my dream for my life?

1. **A Spiritual Awakening** (I gave God entrance into my life)
2. **Broader Exposure** (I saw life potentials I had never seen)
3. **New Relationships** (I met people who made me want what they had in life)
4. **Academic Success** (This made me hungry for more and it brought the world into my life)

Next Time: Dreaming What Will Never Come True (Dealing With Hindrances to Your Dream)

Big Question: Do you know someone that never reached their dreams?