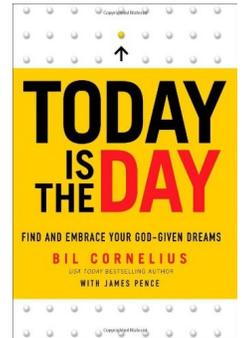


Chapter 6. Cultivate Risk-Taking Faith. (Hebrews 11:6, Joshua 1:1-5, 3:15-16, Deuteronomy 32:47, Luke 19:12-13)

Leader: One of the reasons many people never accomplish their dreams is that they're not willing to risk failure. God often leads us to do things that are not safe. Such times are God's opportunity to prove Himself. There is a possibility of failure, but failure is just an event or an opportunity to learn. Failure is never what defines us. God wants us to take a step of faith that will be messy before He turns it into a miracle. Sometimes, we just need to take a risk and occupy the space of our dreams. Following God is always worth the risk.

Question: What is the huge step of faith God is calling you to take for you to start your dream, or take your dream to the next level?



Leader Note: Getting started is the same as being halfway done. If we are going to obey God's leading and begin to live out our dreams, it will involve risk. God loves us and believes in us enough to have put our dreams on our hearts in the first place. He has already given us what we need to accomplish our dreams.

Chapter 7. Develop the Action Habit. (Matthew 14:22-33, Hebrews 11:1, James 1:22, Colossians 3:23)

Leader: The simple fact is that we will never see our dreams realized until we get up and do something about them. Some of the hurdles we need to overcome may be a fear of rejection or our own pride. If it is fear, we need to remember that we are pursuing our God-given dreams then force ourselves into doing something. Set a deadline, have someone hold us accountable, and get it done. Pride may tell us that we must get it perfect from the start. In that case, we should give ourselves permission to do something badly for a little while so we can get started. People who have developed the action habit do something every day to help their dreams become a reality. Even if they are moving slowly, they are moving forward - DAILY. There may be excuses or habits that are killing our dreams. The reality is, "Someone who has been given a worse hand in life than you is winning with it," Bishop T.D. Jakes. Let's kill our excuses and bad habits by replacing them with good habits that will lead to our own success.

Question: What are the habits you need to implement or maintain to build up the momentum to make your dream a reality?

Leader Note: Peter never would have walked on the water if he hadn't stepped out of the boat. We are most connected to our Creator when we are doing what He made us to do.

Chapter 8. Strengthen Your Confidence. (Romans 12:2, 1 Samuel 17:47, Judges 6:12, Deuteronomy 28:13, 1 Peter 2:9, Philippians 4:13, Romans 8:31, 37, 2 Samuel 30:6, Joel 3:10, 2 Samuel 21:15-22)

Leader: A lack of confidence is a close cousin to fear, and equally powerful in killing our dreams. The Bible says a lot about having confidence. To have confidence, we must first open our minds to a new way of thinking. When we think amazingly huge thoughts, we can begin to live an amazingly huge life. People tend to be confident in what they have already done, and use that success as a springboard towards future successes. We can also borrow confidence through the success of others by following or mimicking the success of others who have succeeded before us. Just by reading, we can meet with the most amazing people and gain access to their best thoughts anytime we want. We can also find ways to meet people who are doing what we want to do by attending seminars and conferences, critique groups, having a coach or mentor. Repetition is a convincing argument and it will help us visualize ourselves doing something successfully. Changing how we self-talk will also change our beliefs of ourselves.

Question: How will you build your confidence in your dream?

Leader Note: Learning should not be done in a vacuum, on our own. Getting honest feedback from others can propel us forward. Now is the time to replace any negative self-talk with positive self-talk. We become what we most believe about ourselves. The next generation is waiting for us to show them the way.