

## The Big Idea: It's safe to dream big when your Father dreams bigger.

Big things come in small packages. Just ask my daughter...{video}

YOU are a very small package in a VERY BIG world. Need a little perspective on just how small you are? Check out <http://census.gov/popclock/>

Nevertheless, small as you may be, very BIG things can come out of you! And no, that's not toilet humor. Here are a few examples of BIG THINGS coming from small people:

- Whitcomb L. Judson: the zipper, 1893 (you all just checked your fly didn't you?)
- Sylvan Goldman: the shopping cart, 1937 (millions are built annually in the US)
- Peter Durand: the can, 1810 (as in tin can full of mushy green peas)
- Ezra J. Warner: the can opener, 1858 (it seriously took 48 years to make the can opening process easier??)

These are a few people you've never heard of that have had enormous lasting impact on our world. We're talking about dreaming big today, and if we just looked at people like this who accomplished something big, but didn't look to Jesus and our Bibles, then I've become a motivational speaker challenging you to do better. You didn't need to get out of bed for that this morning so let's frame the whole morning with **Ephesians 3:14-21**.

Focus on verse 20: "He is able to do **far more abundantly** beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us..."

Lets unpack this verse: the greek word for "**far more abundantly**" here is *huperekperissou* and it literally means "**super abundant**." It's the only time the NT uses this word. Adding *huper* is the difference between "*I can bench press 500lbs*" and "*I can bench a greyhound bus...with a football team in it...after they just left Golden Corral...*"

God isn't just capable of doing big things and catching you off guard, God is able to do SUPER-ABUNDANTLY MORE than anything you could possibly ever imagine.

What does this mean for us? It gives us permission to do three things:

### 1.) **Dream Big**

Don't let small things define a big dream.

Don't let being one small individual in a small town define your dreams.

Think about God's process of recreating you: dead in sin --> alive in Christ (**Romans 6:8-11**)

He creates you brand new (**2 Corinthians 5:17**)

He gives us a new heart (**Ezekiel 36:26**)

He will give us a heart to know Him (**Jeremiah 24:7**)

We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works. (**Ephesians 2:10**)

When we delight in Him He gives us the desires of our heart (which HE created!) (**Psalms 37:4**)

You have permission to dream big because if you are God's child He has put a big dream in your freshly created heart! He has BIG plans for little old you! (**Jeremiah 29:11-13**)

The obvious question is: "How do I know if it's something I dreamed up or if it's a dream God has placed in me?"

There is no definitive answer here, but if I've got to try and give it parameters, I would ask "will it bring honor and glory to God's name?" **1 Corinthians 6:20** says "you were bought at a price (Jesus' blood). Therefore honor God with your bodies."

Dream BIG because your Heavenly Father is capable of doing super-abundantly more that you can ever ask of Him or even begin to imagine!

Consider Joseph who had an enormous dream placed in his heart by the Lord at age 17. (**Genesis 37**-his mother and father and all brothers bowed down to him)

## 2.) "Fail" Hard

You have permission to dream big and permission to "fail" hard. "Fail" is in quotes because if you are dreaming big for God's glory and following the dream He has placed in your heart you cannot fail. You will not fail, even when it feels like you've failed.

What do you do when it feels like your DREAM is headed down the DRAIN?

You continue to Believe In God, the one who began a good work in you and will see it through (**Philemon 1:6**) Just ask every character in the Bible. Follow Jesus and live for God's glory and things are not going to go well for you in this life. Jesus says Himself in **John 16:33** that you WILL have trouble in this life. Back to Joseph.

The valley was deep and wide that Joseph had to crawl through:

- thrown into a pit and left for dead by his own brothers
- sold to slavetraders
- gained success
- framed for rape and imprisoned
- \*now would have been the perfect time to give up

When you think you've failed, maybe God is in the middle of doing something bigger than you asked for or could imagine. He is in Heaven and does as He pleases (**Psalms 115:3**)

If you give up, you'll miss what God's doing 100% of the time.

## 3.) Win Regardless

You have permission to dream big, fail hard, and win regardless. God wins. No, God won! Remember last week and **Revelation 5:11-14**? God has already won. Jesus already has victory over Satan and sin and death, (**1 Corinthians 15:55**) and if you have trusted in Christ for salvation and made Him the Lord of your life, YOU have already won. That trouble Jesus promised in **John 16:33**? Jesus says not to fear because He has already overcome the world!

Joseph was humbled before his family and acted with grace, and God was honored because He worked this dream out for HIS glory to save His people from famine.

He works all things out for the good of those who love Him (**Romans 8:28**)

If God is for us who can be against us? (**Romans 8:31**)

He who began a good work in you will see it through (**Philippians 1:6**)