



A Sweet Summer
Part 9 – Dream Again
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The title of today’s messages, which we’re wrapping up this series and all the kids are about to go back to school... And Mom said... Yes, get them out of the house. I need my sanity back, right? We love them but... How many moms are ready for school to start back up? Look at all the hands. I’m ready and I’m not a mom. My boys need some rhythm and some routine to say the least. Summer is done. It felt like a longer summer because of the Pandemic, right? You’ve been home longer than normal, but soon enough, they’ll be back, and the Chief’s fans will be out in droves.

We’re wrapping up the series and the last message is *Dream Again*. Why would I add *again* at the end of this title? Well, when we’re young, we dream like crazy, right? Kindergarten, first grade...

“What do you want to be when you grow up?” “I want to be an astronaut.” “I want to be a fireman.” “I want to be a doctor.” Or all the way up until I was 18 years old – don’t judge me – I wanted to be a dolphin trainer. I said don’t judge me. I grew up in San Diego, California, so I grew up going to SeaWorld two or three times a year. When you go to SeaWorld two or three times a year, you want to be a dolphin trainer. Not because you want to be a marine biologist, but because you want to put your two feet on the nose of those dolphins and let them throw you 30 feet up in the air. I went to college saying I wanted to major in marine biology. As soon as I started taking some science classes, I no longer wanted to be a marine biologist. My dream was out of whack.

What happens to our dreams? At some point in life, the world beats us down, the enemy gets... and we stop dreaming. We fall for the status quo. I’m just going to live in this house. I’m just going to go through the motions. And then I’m just going to walk in the presence of Jesus when I take my last breath. How does that happen? I’ve studied this like crazy the last couple of weeks and I don’t see anywhere in scripture where if God calls you to him, he doesn’t plant a dream in your heart.

You have to realize though that there is a difference between our dreams and God’s dreams for us. A lot of times, the enemy loves us to focus on our dreams, but if they are God’s dreams for us, guess what Romans 8:31 says. If God is for us, who can be against us? It’s a rhetorical question. The answer is no one. So, if God is first in your life and you are pursuing him and he’s putting desires and dreams and callings on your life, which I believe every single one of you who walked in here, God has a calling on your life. Whether you’ve come to know Jesus yet or not. If you already know Jesus, he has a calling on your life. Scripture tells me that.

1. Glorify God, not yourself. So, when we make dreams and we start dreaming God-sized dreams, it's important that the dream glorifies God and not ourselves. So, in your dream, it's important that you glorify God with your dream and not yourself. This is important, right? We can be like *I want to do this. I want to have a thousand followers. I want to be famous.* Or some of you even do this: *God if you just let me win the Powerball, I'll use that money to serve the poor.* Stop it. God's not a genie. You can serve the poor now with what resources you have now.

It's important that if the dream is about glorifying God, you're one step closer to that dream becoming a reality. God wants all the glory. There are people in Genesis 11... You may have heard of them. They had a big dream. They wanted to make a name for themselves. This is the Tower of Babel. ***4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves..."*** That's a bad idea and it's a bad dream. You want to make your name great? Most of you in here can't even tell me the first and last name of your great, great grandparents. And that's your own family. And you want to dream about making your name great and putting your name in lights? No, it's about His name.

Here's the irony in this verse. ***"...lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth."*** Why did they want to do this? They didn't want to be dispersed all over the whole face of the earth. "Guess what, knuckleheads? You're trying to make yourself great? I'm going to mess up all your languages." There's Swahili, there's Spanish, there's French. Good luck understanding each other. One day best friends are talking together and the next day they can't understand each other. He split them up because they wanted to make the glory about them. It was all about them being great, not about God being great.

If any of you in here have ever trusted Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior... That's a free invitation. It's what he is giving. You don't earn it, you don't work for it; it's not a part of works, it's a part of grace that he has freely given you. He died on the cross for our sins. He was buried and resurrected. For those of you who believe Jesus is your personal lord and Savior, it's that moment you come to understand you were created for his glory, not your own.

I support this with Isaiah 43 ***7 ...everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory..."*** That's why you exist. Every single one of us in here, whether or not you want to recognize it, we all exist to bring God glory. All the glory goes to God. So, whether you are a football player, a doctor, a CEO, a stay-at-home mom, a stay-at-home dad, you exist to bring God glory. So, as you step in that dream, if your sole purpose of your dream is to bring Him all the glory, trust that dream.

But if it's to bring glory to yourself, you're missing your whole purpose for existing. You all exist to bring Him glory. If you don't think He deserves all the glory, tonight, when it gets dark, I want you to try to just hang one star. Not a billion. I just want you to go try and hang just one star in the sky and see how that goes for you. Or if you don't want to wait for tonight, I want you to go to Table Rock and just try to walk on it and see how that goes for you. He deserves all the glory. Not some of it, not 99% of it, he deserve 100% of it. And when your dream is focused on bringing all the glory, all the praise, all the honor to Him, I think you can start trusting that calling in your heart and that call on your life.

2. Don't doubt. So, glorify God, not yourself and don't doubt. If God has put a dream in your heart that is about advancing his kingdom and letting him be known and making his name great and how a living life is proof of a loving God, then walk in that dream. But we'll start walking in that dream and we'll start taking a couple of steps and then we just doubt. We get discouraged. People will hate on it. People will say it's not going to happen. People will give all this negativity why it won't work, and give a whole mountain of *you gotta do this, you gotta do this...* Then we start looking at the problem rather than the one that produced the dream in our heart.

You know who doubted was Sarah. How old was Sarah? She was barren. She was beyond being able to have kids. But God put a dream in Abraham's heart. He said, "Abraham, come here. Look up. Do you see all those stars that you can't even count? I'm going to make your descendants as numerous as those." Abraham was like, "God, are you going to give me a lot more maid servants besides Hagar? Because where are these descendants going to come from?" They doubted.

Do you know what we don't have to doubt? Because God uses his people regardless of their ability. It's not up to you and me on being able to carry it out. It's up to you and me to be faithful and walk in obedience. God does the rest. Think about all through out scripture the people that God put dreams in their heart, and he used. Abraham was a liar. Noah was drunk. Moses didn't speak very well. Sarah was too old. Rahab was a prostitute. Jonah ran from God. Gideon doubted. David was a murderer, conspirator, and an adulterer. Mary Magdalene was an adulteress. Peter had a big mouth. Paul was impulsive. Timothy was too young. Lazarus was dead. Balaam's donkey was a donkey. There's another term in the King James for donkey. Yet, God fulfilled these amazing dreams and callings on their life. It had nothing to do with their ability. It had everything to do with God put something in their heart and said, "Don't doubt; I got this. I hung the universe. I'm the creator. And if I can use a donkey and a dead person, I can surely use you. You just walk in faithfulness and obedience and watch me work and make sure you give me all the glory." But they doubted. Watch what happens.

9 They said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" And he said, "She is in the tent." 10 The Lord said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. That's not the first time a woman has eavesdropped I can assure you of that.

11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?" 13 The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' 14 Is anything too hard for the Lord? At the appointed time I will return to you, about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son." 15 But Sarah denied it, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. Are you really going to try to have this conversation with God? He's the creator of the universe. "You laughed; I heard you. I even hear you when you don't talk." **He said, "No, but you did laugh."**

3. Don't make excuses. So, glorify God, don't doubt, and don't make excuses. You can think of a million excuses. I used to have a college coach that said, "Don't make excuses. They are like armpits; everybody's got them and they all stink." That's the Woodland Hills version of that, by the way.

Excuses are everywhere and we'll never be short of them. My God is not a God of excuses. My God is a God of doing and getting done and continually advancing his kingdom. So, we are either on God's boat going forward or we're not. And if you are making excuses, you're not. If I'm making excuses, I'm not. I can think of a million excuses why I can't do something, but people that make excuses are usually interrupted by people who don't. And those people are fulfilling God's call on their life.

Here's someone else that made an excuse. It was Moses, right? **4 Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The Lord did not appear to you.'"** "God, I have a stutter. I can't speak very well. They are not going to listen to me. And I defeated one of their Egyptians. What if they don't believe me or listen to me or what I say?" What ifs are the dust that our dreams collect on the shelf. Ladies and gentlemen, if God has called you to him and you know Jesus, he's put a dream or a calling on your life.

It's not an occupation. An occupation is a job; it's how you bring money in for the family. A vocation, from the Latin word *voca*, meaning *calling*, is a calling God has on your life. He puts a dream in your heart. And you can think of all the excuses of why you can't do it or why you can't accomplish it or why it won't be done, but that's the dust. You always wonder what if? What if God really does do it. What if you flipped it the other way? What if God does want to use you? Guess what? He does. And it doesn't matter how old you are, how young you are. God never grows tired of using his people that just want to walk in his story and is faithfulness.

4. Walk in Humility. You have to walk with humility, understanding who gave you the dream. Someone in scripture didn't do a great job in walking in humility when God gave him a dream. It was this guy named Joseph. His dad gave him a coat.

Joseph was like, "Yo, yo, bros, look at my coat. Look at all these colors. Look at me." His brothers didn't like it. And then he gets a dream and he's like, "Hey, guess what? I'm going to rule over you suckers. How do you like that?" There wasn't much humility to that. God and pride are the opposite of one another. As a matter of fact, pride is the fertile soil from which all other sins grow. It was pride that got Lucifer kicked out of heaven and it was pride that got Adam and Eve in the mess that they were in. Pride is a beast.

And so, any dream that God gives you, you walk in humility. Words I've never heard in my life, to this day, are, "You know what? I just don't like that fella. He's just so humble." Said no one ever. I've never heard anyone say that. Now I've heard the opposite. "Man, that guy is an arrogant you fill in the blank. But I've never ever heard anyone not like someone because they walk in humility and there's a teachable to them and a willingness to them.

Joseph had a dream and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. Now, Joseph was determined this dream was from God. So, he has this dream. He's sold into slavery by his brothers. They take him off. They lie to his dad, saying he was killed. Then he goes to Egypt and then he gets falsely accused of trying to lay with Potiphar's wife. And then he gets put in the pit in the dungeon. Could you image while he's in the dungeon? What he's thinking. *God, was this dream really from you?* It was.

“And just because it didn’t happen overnight, I’m still working some things out of you, Joseph. I’m still sanctifying you through the process so that when I do exalt you, you’re humble. So that when you are second to Pharaoh, you have the humility to you and that humility will bring me glory and draw other people to my name. So, I need to work some things out of you before I let this dream come to fruition.”

It’s not that God’s delays or God’s denials on your dreams... He’s working something out of you before it comes to fruition. He’s making sure you look more like his son. He’s making sure that dream isn’t about you getting the glory but about him getting the glory. God’s got to work that out of all of us. I pray for me and all of you... I pray your platform is never greater than your faithfulness, whatever that dream may be. I pray none of our platforms for God are ever greater than our faithfulness. I have some friends that are some of the top You Tubers in the world. I’ve been praying with them for 15 years. They are being pretty faithful, and their platform keeps blowing up and I just keep praying, “God, don’t ever allow their platform to be greater than their faithfulness.”

1 Peter 5: 6 says this, **6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, 7 casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.** He lifts us up. Our responsibility is to walk humbly with Him and the dreams and callings he has put on our life that he may lift us up.

Psalms 37: 4 says, **4 Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.** I love this verse. If we took Psalm 37: 4 and it’s broken up into two parts, you could say Psalm 37: 4a and 4b. The “b” part would be “...and he will give you the desires of your heart.” “Yes, sign me up for that God, I want the desires of my heart and the dreams in my heart.” Whoa, but there’s the “a” part and then a becomes b. We all know the alphabet. Take delight in the Lord, take desire in the Lord, make him a priority. The reason I think this is a promise is because when you desire in the Lord, first and foremost, his desires become your desires. Your heart becomes yoked with his. You start dreaming God-shaped dreams. Our dreams are small. You can’t dream big enough for God. You and I can have a voice big enough for God.

People say, “God doesn’t give us more than we can handle.” Yes, he does. Sure, he does. You don’t think the Red Sea was more than Moses could handle? You don’t think walking on water was more than Peter could handle? You don’t think the Midianite army was more than Gideon could handle? God does give us more than we can handle. He doesn’t give us more than HE can handle, thus our need to depend on him. Your dream is more than you can handle, but it’s not more than he can handle, and when you take delight in the Lord, when you desire in the Lord, his desires become your desires. Then watch out and trust that dream. That doesn’t mean it’s going to happen tomorrow, but as you take one step, walking faithfully with him, after another and another and another, and he keeps working out of us what he needs to work out, that process of sanctification, he will fulfill his will for your life.

5. Commit to the Lord. Proverbs 16: 3 says, **Commit your work to the LORD, and your plans will be established.** That’s a promise. You commit and he will establish a plan. Make those plans about him and his glory and advancing his kingdom and he will establish the plan. Why would we waste time chasing bringing ourselves glory when that’s not the promise? The promise is that you commit to the Lord.

To put it another way, Matthew 6: 33 says, **33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.** Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul. Put God first with your dream, your desires, your family. Put God first and watch what he does. He hasn't let me down yet. I've been walking with him for 22 years and not once have I regretted it. Not once have I regretted making that decision to turn away all what the world tells me I should dream and all that the world tells me I should chase. I haven't regretted it for one second. And he keeps putting dreams on my heart. I just have to keep asking, "Lord, is this you? I want to walk with you, I want to know you. I know you didn't put me on this earth to just exist." He has animals and trees to help that whole scientific process. Remember, I'm not good at science so I don't know what that process is called.

He created you for a reason. Psalm 139: 13-15 says, **13 For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. 14 I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.** He has plans for your life. Read it. **Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**

He has a calling on your life. And it's not just to exist. It's not just to watch Fox News. It's not just to spit toxic venom on Facebook. Can you imagine doing that? Just watching Fox News and Netflix and then ride into your presence with Jesus and be like, "Hey, Jesus, I'm here. Sorry, was just watching my last episode of Ozark." And then you are sat at the Marriage Supper of the Lamb with all these other believers that actually walked out their calling and dreams that God put on their heart. As far as you can see right and as far as you can see left, you just listen to all these stories of how they walked out God's dream for their life. And then ten eyeballs look at you and say, "What about you? How did you walk out the dream God put on your life? How did you walk out the calling?" "I went to Woodland Hills once a week. Watched a lot of Netflix, a lot of Fox News. I lived through the pandemic, so..." Nope, no excuses; they are like armpits. What are you going to do? God has a call on your life.

Some of you think you have too much baggage to do anything. I just gave you example after example throughout scripture, Old and New Testament, of God using people with baggage. It's not about you cleaning yourself up. Jesus did the work on the cross and God does the work for you through you when you walk in faithfulness and obedience.

I just talked to a staff member after the first service. We do a debrief. She said something really inciteful. She said, "My marriage is most alive when we dream together." That was powerful. And it's true. That's why it hit me so hard. When Steph and I are dreaming together, that's when my marriage is most alive too. The pandemic threw a curve ball at us and we just kind of got into this depression and this angst. Don't stop dreaming. When life give you lemons, make lemonade, and then set up a lemonade stand. Dream big.

People often discourage dreamers because they aren't living theirs. I don't understand this, Woodland Hills. Christians should never shoot other Christians. Out of jealousy or envy, I don't understand, when you see a brother or sister in Christ that is crushing it for the gospel, why you're not just cheering them on. I told the first service and I'll tell you online too. If you have a dream and you want to put an action plan together... and not rely on Woodland Hills to do it. Ted told you guys this. It's not Woodland Hills'

dream; it's a calling God put on your life. If Stephanie and I can help you, we want to help you. Now, I can't do it for everybody, so do for one what you can't do for all. But I want to get in your corner. If you have a plan together and you want to rock it for God's kingdom, not your glory, I want to help. I want to cheer you on. I want to applaud you. I want to push you towards God's calling in your life. I'll talk about in a second how you can be more sure if you're stepping in cadence with God. But let's cheer each other on. These guys in World War II didn't jump in the trenches against the Germans and turn on each other. They were on the same team. Brothers and sisters in Christ, we are on the same team. There is a real enemy called the devil and your brothers and sisters in Christ are not that person. We should be the greatest encouragers, the greatest exhorters, and the greatest supporters of other brothers and sisters in Christ when they begin dreaming things for God.

Dreaming is not a spiritual gift. So, exhortation, teaching, mercy, prophecy, all those things are spiritual gifts. Dreaming is not a spiritual gift. Dreaming is inherited when you become a follower of Christ. You become a follower of Christ, you believe that Jesus died on the cross for your sins. It was nothing you did, and you accept that, then the dreams are planted in your heart. He's the great dream giver. He doesn't call you to Jesus to do nothing. I promise you that.

John 10: 10 says, ***10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*** God sized dreams, God-focused dreams. So, this isn't like some people are dreamers and others are not. That's another what if, that's an excuse. All of you in here are dreamers because you serve, for those of you who are followers of Christ, the great dream giver. "Hey, Peter, you're a fisherman? Get out of that boat. I have a dream for you. You're going to be a fisher of men." "Hey, Matthew, you're a tax collector? Get out from behind that booth; I'm going to have you collect souls instead." "Oh, Noah, I'm going to have you build a boat. I know you've never built a boat and you've never seen rain, but I have a different dream for you and your family." "Hey, David, you're a shepherd? You're actually going to be a king."

I just don't see anywhere in scripture when God calls them, he doesn't put a dream in their heart. He's trying to put a dream in your heart. He has a calling on your life. You don't have to be Mother Theresa. You don't have to go to Calcutta, India and serve the dying and the lepers and the sick. It might be something really small.

Look at this guy. You know AARP, which is for old people. Did you know AARP gives out an award every year for the people that are still living their lives of purpose. They are retired and they're done and instead of checking out and just doing nothing the rest of their life, they are actually living their life of purpose because they want to walk into the presence of Jesus, realizing retirement is not biblical. You can retire from your occupation, you never retire from your vocation, your calling. The man or woman of God doing the work of God is immortal until God says otherwise. So, if he's got you on this earth breathing, you better be dreaming.

Edwin P. Nicholson, 79, of Port Tobacco, Maryland, is a Vietnam War veteran and prostate cancer survivor who founded Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing. Mr. Nicholson's organization mentors disabled vets during fishing trips around the world. He's 79 years old.

How about this one? Reverend Violet Little, 69 years old, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania who started the Welcome Church, a refuge for the homeless in the City of Brotherly Love, a congregation and development of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Little has become the voice of the homeless among ELCA's 10,000 plus congregations.

How about this one? Bonnie Sikora, 96, South Fork Burrough, Pennsylvania, mother of 11 who served meals on wheels and volunteered at a nursing home late into 90s until she could no longer physically do it. Talk about walking into the presence of Jesus, realizing this world is not about you and having a God-sized dream. She didn't serve meals on wheel to the whole 50 states. She was faithful in walking out a God-sized dream in her heart just where she was.

What about young people? This is our church family right here. We just had a 14–15-year-old division cross-fit winner. A young man that loves Jesus just won the fittest 14-15-year-old division in the world. Now, use that platform for God's glory. Tim Tebow, right? Play off winner for the Broncos. He gave God all the glory and everybody hated on him. He knew he was here to give God glory, so he's going to be an athlete but he's going to give Him all the glory in the midst of his athleticism. I hope he keeps that same focus and God continually does it.

How about this. A six-year-old. Actually, it's my six-year-old. His name is Anders. He wasn't doing much this summer, so I put a dream in his heart because he wanted a lot of things. Like a lot of Legos.

I said, "Buddy, money doesn't grow on trees."

He said, "How can I make money? I'm only six."

I said, "Well, we live on a golf course. Go Easter egg hunting."

He goes easter egg hunting. He has washed (I'm not exaggerating) over thousands of golf balls. He six years old. I put it out online. People started buying these mint Pro VXs from him. He starts making a little bit of money. He starts making a lot a bit of money. He went from just wanting Legos to wanting video game consoles, to wanting a four-wheeler.

He said, "But, Daddy, it's my money."

I said, "First of all, Psalm 50: 10 says it's God's money."

"No, it's my money."

"Okay, how are you going to get that money?"

"Take me to your bank."

"It is your money, but I want to talk to you about this." He agreed. When he started making a lot of money, his dream became about him. And now he wants to start a whole golf ball business.

I said, "Hold on. Let's call somebody."

I have a buddy named Bill Landers. He's a missionary down in Eleuthera. I've gone down there for the last six years to serve alongside him as he's done a phenomenal job serving a Haitian community called Blackwood. They are kind of throwaways on this island. Anders and Aiden have been with me to serve these Haitians in Eleuthera.

I called Bill, put him on speaker phone and said, "Hey, bill, Anders is doing pretty good at his golf ball business. As a matter of fact, he's made quite a bit of money. I'm trying to explain to him that he needs to earn, give, save, spend. He's not liking this give part right now."

Bill said, "Well, Anders, I got a kid over in the Haitian development that you've met before and because of COVID and lack of tourism on the Bahamas, these kids are going two to three days without eating anything. If you want to help me out, I could feed some of these kids."

Bill sends me this picture two days ago (picture of a boy with food in his hands). I show Anders this picture and I'm teary eyed. His smile is from ear to ear.

Bill was saying, "Hey, man, you just fed this family for a week. Thank you so much for giving me some of your golf ball money."

Anders gets up, after I show him this picture. He starts walking outside. I go, "Where are you going:"

He goes, "I've got to find more golf balls."

I said, "For what?" He goes, "I want to feed the whole village."

If a six-year-old can do it, what is our excuse? And if you need golf balls, let me know.

Baby steps. It can feel overwhelming.

1. Write it down. So even if you're sitting here and God's stirring in your heart, write it down. Journal it. write something you want to do.

2. Pray about it. Psalm 139: 23-24 says, ***23 Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! 24 And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!*** Filter your dream through that scripture. See if it's about you or about God.

3. Act. Do you know how everyone climbs Mt. Everest? The same way. One step at a time. There is no trick to climbing Mt Everest. You might think your dream is monumental. One step at a time.

As you guys know, we've been watching the Olympics so you're going to know this isn't' from the current Olympics because there are actually fans, but there a video that I want to close with.

[video plays]

So, Hebrews 12 talks about this great cloud of witnesses. The Marriage Supper of the Lamb. The people that lived out God's calling, God's dreams for their lives. And they are running. They ran their race, and they knew God put a dream on their heart and they ran after that as fast as they could. And they ran their split as fast as they could. Their short, little split of life, their mist, their vapor of a life, they ran as hard as they could. And they didn't spend it yelling at people on Facebook and they didn't spend it watching Fox News all day. They didn't spend it just sitting around the house. No, they ran this race that God had for them. They ran this dream that God put on their heart.

And then they ran and they passed it on to their sons or their grandsons and they ran their leg of the race. Eventually, it got to you. Could you imagine they just broke the world record in that Olympics in London? When that third leg passed the baton to Usain Bolt. He's got the lead and he's about to set the world record. He grabs that baton and he's like, "That's a cool dream. I'm good." And he just starts strutting. Everybody is passing him by, chasing their dreams, going after it. No, God's put a dream in your hand. God wants to put a dream in your hand. God's got a call on your life. And now this is your leg. This is your relay. This is your moment.

Could you imagine if Woodland Hills became a bunch of dreamers, God-sized dreamers. Not our personal dreams. How Taney County, Stone County, the entire world could be flipped upside down because people stopped listening to the enemy and wanted to see what God might want to do in their life. He didn't create you just to exist.

Father God, thank you so much for this church family, for this body, that you don't call us just to exist, but you actually call us with a purpose. You have a plan for our life. It doesn't matter how messed up and dirty and jacked up we are. You clean us up and you use us despite ourselves, despite if we're dead, despite if we are a prostitute, an adulteress, a murderer, a conspirator. You used us despite ourselves.

We come before you, confessing that against you and only you have we sinned so you prove right when you speak and justified when you judge. I pray that you would plant God-sized dreams in all the hearts in here today, even those listening online. God, will you use us for your glory? Would you use us that we may make your name great and not our own?

We love you. It's in the matchless and mighty name of Jesus we pray, and all God's people said... amen.