

Opening  
the Door  
to Your  
God-Sized  
Dream

*40 Days of Encouragement for Your Heart*

*Holley Gerth*



a division of Baker Publishing Group  
Grand Rapids, Michigan

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To the  
*God-Sized Dreams Team*

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# Introduction

*God-sized dream* = a desire in your heart for more of what God has for you

The coffee steams up from my cup. The chatter of other conversations swirls around me. The baristas are busy at their work.

I'm here to write about God-sized dreams. And a voice within me keeps insisting, "It's not the right time."

"You're too busy."

"It's too hard."

I know that voice. It comes whenever I get ready to take the next step toward what God has for me. Maybe you've heard it too?

"When you have more experience . . ."

"When the kids are older . . ."

"When the bank account is fuller . . ."

But here's the thing: there is no perfect time for a God-sized dream.

God-sized dreams knock on the door of our hearts. We can get so used to the sound that we let them stand outside for a lifetime. They don't force their way in, insist to be heard, or demand to be pursued.

We have to choose to let our God-sized dreams into our lives. In the middle of the busy. In the middle of the insecurity. In the middle of the fear.

When you open the door of your heart to a God-sized dream, you also open it wider to the Giver of them. That's what matters most of all. If you long for more intimacy with Jesus, joy in your life, purpose in your days, then put your hand on the doorknob and get ready to turn it.

Will it be a little scary? Yes.


Will it probably be harder than you thought? Yes.

Will it be more worth it than you could have even imagined? Absolutely.

Close your eyes for a moment. Listen not with your ears but with the deepest part of you.

*Tap-tap.*

It's there.



A God-sized dream waiting not for the perfect time but for this one—*waiting for this moment*.  
Right here. Right now.

Let's open the door together.

I'll be right there with you as you do.

And best of all, God will too.

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# Giving Words to Your God-Sized Dream

*In the beginning was the Word . . .*

*John 1:1*

The question comes quietly, “Have you ever shared your God-sized dream with anyone?”

It’s posted online in a group of ninety-nine God-sized dreamers. You can almost hear the nervous laughter spread throughout the thread.

A few answers appear: Yes, I’ve shared my God-sized dream with . . .

My husband.

My best friend.

Someone at my church.

But more common than those answers are the confessions that putting words to a God-sized dream is downright scary.

What if it doesn't come true?

What if I fail?

What if this isn't what God has for me after all?


I nod my head in understanding at these questions. It's one thing to have a quiet desire within your heart. It's quite another to let it have a voice.

And yet all the way back to the start of creation, God shows us words have incredible power. The story of earth opens with creation being spoken into being.

Let there be light.

Let the land produce.

Let us make mankind in our image.



*Let* is a word of permission. It's an opening up, an inviting in, a bringing forth. What is the "let there be . . ." that needs to be spoken in your life?

When God says, "Let there be . . ." the same response always follows: "And there was." For the Creator of the universe, words and results always align. For us finite humans, the process unfolds differently.

First, it takes time for our God-sized dreams to fully come into being. We can get discouraged when the vision doesn't instantly become reality. But only God has that capability. God-sized dreams take perseverance.

Also, what God envisions and what happens are one and the same because he has perfect perspective. For us, our God-sized dreams usually turn out very differently than we imagined when we began. They require flexibility as we let our original plan be reshaped to God's will.

And for our dreams to become reality, our words have to be followed with action. Once we put words to our dreams, it's easy to think that's all it takes. But that's only the beginning. Our words become the driver for what we do . . . again and again, day after day.

I glance once more at the responses from the God-sized dream team online. The fear is slowly giving way to excitement, support, and joy. As they share their hearts, I can feel the beat within their words. Like the first blip on an ultrasound when new life appears.

Small but powerful.

Full of promise.

The beginning of good things.

Let there be . . .

a God-sized dream in your life today.

## Explore

.....

Read John 1:1-5 to discover more about the Word and his creative work in our lives and hearts.

## Express

.....

*God, thank you that you are the Creator of all things and all true dreams. It's a little scary to put*



*words to mine, but at the same time I know doing so brings life and power into what you're asking me to do in mysterious ways. Give me courage to say yes to what you're asking me to do, and most of all, help me to draw closer today to you. Amen.*

## Experience

.....

You've put your God-sized dream into words. Now try drawing it here. (Disclaimer: I have no artistic skills, and it's okay if you don't either.) Practice going through the process God did at creation—going from what you say to what you can see.