

# **Dream: Reformation**

January 9, 2022

Speaker: Dr. Mark Batterson Scripture: Acts 13:1-3

#### **Series Overview:**

Quit living as if the purpose of life is to arrive safely at death. It's time to DREAM again! We're believing God for nothing less than Revival, Reformation, and Renaissance in our nation, in our generation. The capacity to dream is part of the image of God, and the supernatural byproduct of a Spirit-filled life. Show me the size of your dream, and I'll show you the size of your God. It's time to dream big, pray hard, and think long!

#### **Series Discussion Questions:**

What are some dreams the Lord has been stirring in your heart?

#### Message Overview:

If you want to REPEAT history, do the way it's always been done. If you want to MAKE history, do it the way it's never been done before. The solution to our problems is very rarely MORE or LESS of the same. It's DARING to be different. It's DARING to dream again.

#### **Message-Specific Discussion Questions:**

What does an internal "reformation" look like in your life?

#### You can't solve present-tense problems with past-tense solutions

- Read Isaiah 43:18-19.
- Matthew 9:17 tells us that "new wine needs new wineskins."
- When the Holy Spirit is working in new ways around us, we have the opportunity to grow.
- The capacity to dream and the ability to imagine, are parts of the image of God that are hardwired into the human soul
- What does the size of my dream reflect about how I see God? How big is my God?

# Reformation starts with consecration; It is sustained by spiritual disciplines

- Read Acts 13:1
- The church started with a diversity beyond the cultural norms
- We each have a gifting that we are responsible to steward
- There are likely others around us that may stretch our comfort levels, with their gifts.
- What is a gift God has given you that you can open up to his direction and guidance?

### Consecration

- Read Acts 13:2.
- Paul and Barnabas needed a fresh fill-up of God's Holy Spirit for the mission they were called to.
- God's Spirit cannot fill you if you are full of yourself
- Fasting is removing distractions that allow us to be filled up
- What distractions may be keeping you from filling up with the Holy Spirit? What does fasting currently look like in your regular spiritual disciplines?

## Worship

- Reflect on Psalm 22:3
- Worship is how we activate faith and activate our gifts
- Worship is how we go through and get out of hard situations we find ourselves in
- We do not need to know more, we need to worship more.
- How is the heart of worship part of our daily life?

"The purpose of theology is doxology." J.I. Packer

**Prayer**: Lord, help me to make prayer the catalyst to the changes in my life and in the world around me. Let every prayer meet the two-fold litmus test. Let it be in Your will. Let it be for Your glory. Help me be encouraged that the dreams you have placed in my heart are for purposes bigger than I alone can accomplish and that you will see it to completion. Amen.

#### **Practical Application**

- o Make a Bible reading plan a daily discipline, and connect with NCC Daily. (Download the <u>NCC app</u> to find our plan).
- o Start the day with positive encouragement, in a prayerful virtual gathering by joining the <u>Upper Zoom</u> each Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 7:14am. **Register at** <u>ncc.re/UpperZoom</u>
- o Spend prayerful time in worship. Access Pastor Mark's playlist here, for a start. (Or on Spotify)



