# DON'T SHRINK YOUR DREAM! ENLARGE YOUR FAITH!

**TERRI SAVELLE FOY** 

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### INTRODUCTION

God would not put a dream in your heart if He did not have every intention of bringing it to pass. But you have to build your faith in God and in yourself to achieve it.

On July 26, I was looking over my top ten goals for the year and nothing was checked off! Not even one. Here it was nearly eight months into the year, and my twelve-month goals were not even close to being reached. That week, I was having lunch with my twenty-two-year old daughter, Kassidi, when she enthusiastically said, "Mom, I have already achieved six of my top ten goals for this year!"

I was thrilled for her but disappointed with myself. "That's awesome," I somewhat sarcastically replied (since I'm the one who taught her how to set and achieve goals). In all seriousness, I honestly thought, I am clearly dreaming too big and I need to reduce my goals a little because they are obviously way too ambitious.

Right when I was about to flip open my laptop to reset and reduce my goals for the remainder of the year, I heard this phrase

in my spirit that has altered the way I think, believe, and achieve my God-inspired dreams: "Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!"

I sat on my chaise lounge with my journal in hand penning those seven words and replaying them over and over in my head. Could that really be God instructing me to not give up on these big dreams, no matter how unattainable they appear? My next question was, How? How do I enlarge my faith to achieve these big dreams?

After God spoke those seven words to me during my prayer time, He began leading me through a seven-step checklist of building my faith to achieve those impossible dreams. After I applied this checklist, I achieved eight of my ten goals by December 31st of that year!

What a difference four months of enlarged faith produced!

One month later, with two big goals still remaining, I began to doubt again. Were these two dreams unrealistic? Am I being ridiculous asking God for such big milestones? Should I let up a little bit and just be grateful for what God has already done?

Again, I heard these words in my spirit, "Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!"

I took those words to heart, refused to give up or be discouraged, and began doing what God instructed me to do. By mid-January, all ten of my dreams and goals were achieved.

What is your dream? It could be major weight loss, starting your own ministry or business, getting married, seeing your marriage restored, obtaining a big promotion in your career, living in your dream house, driving your dream car, paying off your debts, conceiving a baby, seeing a relative delivered from drug addiction, or traveling the world. Whatever it is, don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith to achieve it!

### The dream is **never** the problem—it's the dreamer!

God's Word says in Matthew 9:29, "Be it unto you according to your faith." In other words, if you can believe it, you can receive it.

When you do what I am about to share with you in this little book, I believe it will be like a domino effect in your life. You could have four or five thousand dominoes stacked in line, but all you have to do is gently push one down—just one domino—and it sets in motion a chain reaction of all the other dominoes falling down. In fact, the world record of dominoes falling down is 4.4 million in The Netherlands on Domino Day. And it all began with one push.

So, what is the first domino in your life, that if you were to knock it down, would cause a chain reaction and all the other ob-

stacles would come crashing down? Doors of opportunity would open. New relationships would form, and divine connections would be made. Promotions, increase and favor would come in your career and business. Dreams achieved.

I believe that first domino is your identity.

What you become and achieve all boils down to the way you see yourself. If you are going to achieve the dreams in your heart, you have to change the way you see yourself. You have to believe in yourself a little more. This one thing affects everything. It affects your career, your relationships, your salary, your body, your relationship with God. Everything.

Here's a phrase that opened my eyes to embracing the changes I needed to make:

### "The life you currently live is the life you think you're worth."

You behave in a manner consistent with how you see yourself. You will stay in a low-paying job because of what you think you are worth. You will settle for a lousy relationship, maybe even an abusive relationship, because of what you think you are

worth. You will maintain an out-of-shape body because of what you think you are worth. You won't expect much from God because of what you think you are worth. And you will dream little dreams because of what you think you're worth.

How do you increase your self-worth and begin to believe for bigger things? Well, value is based on rarity. People value what is rare. That's why a diamond is more valuable than a rock. Diamonds are rare; rocks are everywhere. See, when *you* become rare (not like everyone else), you become more *valuable* and increase your worth.

Now let me be clear, I'm not talking about your intrinsic value as a person. You are valuable simply because of the price Jesus paid for you when He died on the cross. When you see yourself the way God sees you and understand His love for you, you will carry yourself as a worthy and valuable person. If "normal" in the world is bitter, guilt-ridden, stuck in the past, trapped in comfort zones, then let's be people who are rare.

In 2002, when my life hit an all-time low, I looked at my situation: separated from my husband, living paycheck-to-paycheck, no money saved, my house was a mess, I was a mess, I had no dreams or goals in front of me, and I had a five-year-old little girl looking to me as a role model. I looked into my future and realized that unless I made a radical decision to change, this wasn't going to be a season of regret but a lifetime of regret.

That's when I decided to become rare. I decided to change my identity from the girl who got pregnant before marriage, the girl who was violated, rejected, insecure, shy, out of shape, and in debt, to the girl who rents arenas, writes books, ministers across the globe, and believes that somehow God can use her to impact millions to live their dreams. I changed my identity by becoming rare, or not like everyone else.

I want to share with you the seven keys God has taught me that will shift your identity, cause you to become rare, and enlarge your faith to achieve your big dreams.



## Dream as **BIG** as You Can



### How far you can see determines how far you can go.

If your dreams are possible, you're not dreaming big enough. In fact, you should be concerned if people don't think you're "a little crazy" because you might not be dreaming big enough. I heard someone say the worst day in Heaven would be when God gives you a glimpse of all that you could have been, all that you could have done, and all that you could have had. But for some reason, you didn't dream. You didn't think you deserved it. You didn't think it was possible.

Ephesians 3:20 (CSB) says, "Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us."

Let me encourage you, that tug on your heart is there for a reason. God is saying to you, "Step into this!" Dream that big dream. Believe that you are qualified by God and favored by Him to have it.

So often we focus more on what we don't want than what we do want. We say things like:

- "I don't want to live here the rest of my life."
   Where do you want to live?
   "I've never thought about it."
- "I don't want to be 60 still working at this place."
   What is your dream job?
   "I have no idea, just not this."
- "I don't want to end up 50 and still not married."
   What is your ideal spouse like?
   "I'm not sure."
- "I don't want to be making this same amount of money for the next 20 years."
   How much would you like to earn?
   "More."

Talking about what you don't want doesn't change anything. Imagine you're at a new restaurant you've heard great things about. You're seated and the waiter gives you a menu. Every time he comes to ask what you would like to eat you list off all the op-

### **FAITH**

MAKES US SURE OF WHAT WE
HOPE FOR AND GIVES US PROOF
OF WHAT WE CANNOT SEE.

HEBREWS 11:1

tions you don't want. "I don't want the appetizers." "I don't like the tropical salad." "The grilled chicken doesn't sound good to me." You'll never get something to eat until you know what you want.

Do you ever give yourself quiet time to just think? Solitude could be one of the biggest things lacking in your life. Henry Ford said, "Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason so few engage in it."

It's really hard to hear from God while you're talking. You have to be quiet and just listen. You'll be amazed how loud He speaks.

### **Action Steps**

### 1. Visualize your future.

Sit quietly with God and just imagine. Imagine your life five years into the future and ask questions. Clarity comes from questions.

Imagine living your ultimate life. What does it look like? Where do you live? What do you drive? Where do you work? How much money have you saved? What are you happy you did? Where have you gone? What would make your situation better? What needs to change in your life? What does your

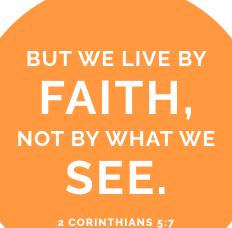
body look like? Who are you helping?

You have to see the end from the beginning. God asked Jeremiah, "What do you see?" When Jeremiah answered, God responded to him, "You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it" (Jeremiah 1:11–12, ESV). What do you see? If your answer is "nothing," what do you think you can expect? If you see nothing, expect nothing.

### 2. Write it down.

As you spend time alone with God and let Him speak to your heart, show you His plans, and stir desires, write it down. "Terri, I already know about writing down my dreams and goals. I've heard this before." But have you done it? What's easy to do is also easy not to do.

Last summer, I did the very opposite of what I teach people all over the world to do. I was vague about my dream house. I put a photo of lake front property on my vision board. My husband Rodney and I looked around and almost bought a one-acre lot. It was nice property on the lake, and I was settled on moving forward to purchase it. While praying one morning shortly before closing, I heard the Lord say, "I'm not the God of *close enough*. I'm the God of all that you desire, plus more than enough."



Then He asked, "What is your ultimate dream?" This time I wrote it down in detail. A long, winding driveway, private entrance, tree-covered, with space to landscape, and the house close to the water. Two days later, we found our ultimate dream property. It was eight tree-covered acres with a long, winding entrance where we could build close to the water. And it cost *less* than the one acre that I had decided was *close enough*.

### Don't **shrink** your dream! Enlarge your faith!

Be very specific about what you dream. Don't be vague. Don't just write, "I want a lot of money over the next five years." Be clear, "I have \$50,000 saved in the next five years." That means you need to start saving \$10,000 per year, or \$834 each month, or \$192 each week.

Don't rush through this. This is your life. This is how you will be remembered.

### 3. Keep it before your eyes.

One of the greatest reasons goals go unachieved is because they are often kept out of sight. When it comes to goals,

you want to keep them a little out of reach but never out of sight.

We tend to write some goals down and put them in a drawer, file, flash drive, or nightstand. No, you've got to keep them before your eyes. Find a photo of your dream house, your ideal body, your perfect vacation. Put your photo on the cover of a book or a magazine cover. Get pictures of the bedroom furniture you want, the wedding ring you love, the car you desire to drive, the outreach you want to start.

Don't just frame the past, showcase where you believe God is taking your life.

Why is it so important to keep it before your eyes? The Law of Attraction basically states that whatever you focus on, you will attract in your life. Proverbs 23:7 says that you are what you think. What you think about, you bring about.

Bottom line: We move toward what we consistently see.

Put your goals as the wallpaper or lock screen on your phone. Most people check their phone ten times an hour. That's nearly 200 times a day you could keep your goals before your eyes.

It doesn't cost anything to dream big, but it can cost everything if you don't.



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WHEN THE VISION

IS CLEAR, THE RESULTS

WILL APPEAR.





## Declare What You BELIEVE

### You activate and release the spiritual force of faith using the words of your mouth.

Plain and simple, if you want to know where your life is headed, listen to the words coming out of your mouth.

That summer, when my goals were not being reached and I was just about to re-evaluate my ambition, the Lord spoke to my heart and said, "If you're not going to speak faith, don't speak at all." Wow! God isn't messing around when it comes to just how powerful every word is that comes out of our mouths.

Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and life are in the power of the tongue." I read where we speak approximately 16,000 words a day. That's the equivalent of filling up a 60-page book every single day. When you comprehend how many words are coming out of your mouth each day, you could think of it like scooping up sand with your hands. In other words, you're not concerned if some of it slips through your fingers. Same with words, right? It's not a big deal if some negative words slip through (out of 16,000 words a day), right?

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## WORDS ARE CONTAINERS OF POWER.

YOU CHOOSE WHAT KIND OF POWER THEY CARRY.

- JOYCE MEYER

### 2. Declare What You Believe

Let's see what God thinks about that. "Let me tell you something: Every one of these careless words is going to come back to haunt you. There will be a time of reckoning. Words are powerful; take them seriously. Words can be your salvation. Words can also be your damnation" (Matthew 12:36–37, MSG).

Well, that answers that question. God doesn't waste words. What He says, He means. In my book, *Pep Talk*, I tell the story of Dr. Emoto and the experiment he conducted on the power of words over cooked rice.

Dr. Mararu Emoto used three different containers, each with a different label. He filled each container with cooked rice and then labeled them "Thank You," "You're An Idiot," and left one unlabeled. Every day for one solid month, Dr. Emoto would speak to the container based on the labels. He spoke pleasant, affirming words to the rice labeled, "Thank You." He yelled harsh, demeaning words to the "You're An Idiot" jar; and the third jar, he simply ignored altogether.

After thirty days of consistent treatment, the "Thank You" rice began to ferment, look appealing and give off a strong, pleasant aroma. The "You're An Idiot" rice turned mostly black and mushy giving off a sour milk aroma, and the neglected rice simply began to rot and mold turning a disgusting greenish-blue color. Since then, other scientists, college students, and even homeschoolers have duplicated this experiment, witnessing the same or similar

### 2. Declare What You Believe

results, proving how powerful your words are in producing the outcome in your life.

Words are carriers of life or death. If rice can be affected by positive and negative words as well as total neglect, then how much more can your circumstances be dramatically affected by the same? Words are vehicles taking you closer to or further from your dreams. My question for you is this: Are your words limiting you or are they promoting you? Are your words demoralizing and destructive or are they courageous and constructive?

Most people follow the instructions of their doctor when they say, "This pill will heal you. It will take you from sick to healthy. All you need to do is just follow the instructions. Take the pill." You may not fully understand how it works, but you obey the doctor. Well, the Great Physician said, "Thou shalt decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee" (Job 22:28, KJV). Speaking positive, faith-filled words out of your mouth is the prescription to live your dreams.

I love how James Clear explains the power of words in his book, *Atomic Habits*. He gives an illustration of two people resisting a cigarette. One person says, "No, thank you. I'm trying to quit." It sounds reasonable and understandable, but it's much more important than most realize. Why? Because this person still sees themselves as a smoker who's *trying* something. Their identity is a smoker trying to be something else.

## FA TH, DON'T SPEAK AT ALL,

- TERRI SAVELLE FOY

### 2. Declare What You Believe

The second person declines the cigarette by saying, "No, thanks. I'm not a smoker. "This may sound like a minor change, but in reality, it's major! The second person has already decided on a new identity even though they're still in the process of changing. Saying, "I'm not a smoker" is a significant change in identity. They are declaring that smoking is a part of their former life, not their current identity. You need to do the same thing with your new identity and your dreams.

## Change what you're saying, and you'll **change** what you're seeing.

I challenge you to act as if it has already happened. Begin talking as if you already have what you're praying for and dreaming about.

I saw a YouTube video the other day of a young teenage boy who is already a millionaire. He said that the day he found out his business had just reached \$1 million in revenue, his friend asked, "How does it feel to know that you are officially a millionaire?" He answered, "Exactly like it felt two years ago. I just didn't have the money yet." Why? Because he began speaking

### 2. Declare What You Believe

the results before he had them. He said, "I was a millionaire before I had the money."

### You have to step into the role before you have the results.

Concerning weight loss, people have had amazing results when they did this. Before you've actually lost the weight, walk around as if you've already lost it. Act as if you are the weight you want to be. Would it change the way you eat if you were at your goal weight?

Let me show you one more important illustration of just how detrimental your words can be. There's a story in the Bible from the first chapter of Luke where an angel appeared to Zechariah and informed him that he and his wife were going to have a baby. Instead of responding with gratitude and enthusiasm, he responded with doubt. He questioned the angel by asking, "Are you sure? Do you know how old I am?" I want you to pay close attention to how the angel of the Lord responded to Zechariah's negative words.

"Because you doubted, you will remain silent and not speak until the baby is born." (See Luke 1:11–20.) What does that mean?

### "WISE WORDS BRING MANY BENEFITS, AND HARD WORK BRINGS REWARDS."

PROVERBS 12:14

### " BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY

AND PROTECT YOUR LIFE.

A CARELESS TALKER DESTROYS HIMSELF. "

PROVERBS 13:3



### 2. Declare What You Believe

The angel literally zipped his lips! He shut the guy's mouth and made him unable to speak for nine months! Why? Because he knew that if he let Zechariah speak, he could mess up the whole plan of God for his life.

Think about this in reference to your dreams, your doubts, your words. Are you questioning God the way I did when my goals looked completely unattainable?

"Are you sure? Do you know how much debt I have?"

"Are you sure? Do you know how unqualified I am?"

"Are you sure? Do you know how many times I've tried to lose weight before?"

"Are you sure? Do you know how old I am?"

What if God zipped your lips today because your mouth was messing up His plans? Your dreams could be delayed because of what you're saying. I want you to see that getting your mouth in line with God's promises for your life is a two-step process: (1) Stop speaking negative words, and (2) Start speaking positive words.

Remember, if you're not going to speak faith, don't speak at all.

### **Action Steps**

Make a list of five positive declarations and five scriptures to speak out loud over your dreams and goals. Do it every day until it gets down on the inside of you. When doubt surfaces, speak one of those power declarations out!



THE WORDS THAT COME OUT OF YOUR MOUTH.

- MATTHEW 15:11



## Deliberately CHOOSE Your Input

# SO FAITH COMES BY HEARING, AND HEARING BY THE WORD OF CHRIST.

- ROMANS 10:17 -

# Remember the phrase that I heard in prayer when I wanted to give up on my big dreams: Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!

The big question is, "How do you enlarge your faith?" Well, the number one method God has given us in His Word to enlarge, increase, and expand our faith is found in Romans 10:17, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."

How does faith come? By hearing. It is as simple as it seems. All you need to do is "push play" and listen to God's Word as you go about your daily routine and your faith will grow. Find messages from ministers who speak faith, hope, encouragement, inspiration and truth from the Word of God and decide to listen to them intentionally.

When can you do this? You don't even have to stop what you typically do during your day; you simply add this to your routine

"THE ONLY PERSON YOU ARE OF STINED TO BECOME

...IS THE PERSON LOU DECIDE TO BE."

#### 3. Deliberately Choose Your Input

while you get ready, commute to work, or fold laundry. Look for opportunities to hear God's Word (build your faith) as you go about your regular activities. Instead of having the television on in the background while you cook, listen to a powerful message that ignites your spirit to dream bigger! Every time you do this, faith comes!

Let me explain to you what happens each time faith is deposited into your spirit. You begin to think differently, you start dreaming bigger, your confidence grows, your fears subside, and you truly believe that all things are possible with God.

Your input shapes your outlook, and your outlook shapes your outcome. Guarding your input not only refers to what you listen to, what you read, and what you watch, but it also includes who you hang around. TD Jakes said, "Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future." Get around nine losers, and you'll soon be the tenth. The opposite is true as well, if you get around those at a higher level than you, you'll come up higher.

It's pretty cut-and-dried. If you want to get fit, get around people more fit than you. If you want to get wealthy, get around people with more money than you. If you want to achieve big dreams, get around people doing bigger things than you.

Have you ever been at a restaurant with some of your friends and at the end of the meal, the waiter asks, "Can I interest you in the dessert menu?" And you light up with excitement until every-

#### 3. Deliberately Choose Your Input

one at the table says, "No, thank you. I'm finished. I couldn't possibly eat one more thing." Suddenly, you chime in with them and politely decline the dessert you were craving. What happened? Simply put, you were influenced by your surroundings.

I like how Ed Mylett explains this principle as being like a thermostat. He says to intentionally put yourself around higher temperature people. In other words, if you get around someone who is at 100 degrees in fitness and you're at 70 degrees, you will come up higher just by proximity.

Personally, when I get around my friend, Diana, it inspires me to work out harder. When I get around Paula White, she inspires me to dream bigger. When I get around Dr. Caroline Leaf, she inspires me to eat healthier.

On purpose, add associations to your life who live in the areas that you want to grow in. Choose mentors who speak faith into your life. Read their books. Subscribe to their pod-casts or YouTube channels. Attend their conferences. Go out of your way to invest in your growth.

The K.E.Y. to success is simple: Keep Educating Yourself. Continually have the right, positive, faith-filled people speaking into your life. Remember, God's Word says, "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God" (Romans 10:17). Yes, you need to hear messages that cause you to grow in a variety of different areas, depending on your dreams. You need to hear

NEVER STOP RECITING THESE
TEACHINGS. YOU MUST THINK ABOUT
THEM NIGHT AND DAY SO THAT YOU
WILL FAITHFULLY DO EVERYTHING
WRITTEN IN THEM. ONLY THEN WILL
YOU PROSPER AND SUCCEED.

**JOSHUA 1:8** 

#### 3. Deliberately Choose Your Input

talks on marketing, sales, advertising, branding, communications, etc. But you also need to keep your faith built up to believe that all things are possible with God. The only way to do that is by hearing God's Word consistently.

You've heard that phrase: If you're the smartest one in the room, you're in the wrong room. If all your friends think you're the wealthiest, the most successful, the fittest, you're hanging around the wrong friends. Why? Because you're not growing. You're the one doing all the teaching and they will stunt your growth. Be very intentional about absorbing advice from people doing better than you. If you can't hang around certain people, then listen to their messages, enroll in their courses, read their books. The person hungriest to learn will be fed the most results.

#### **Action Steps**

Choose someone this week to listen to and build your faith while you get ready each day.



- BOB PROCTOR -



# Determine to Keep Your Promise to Yourself

Do you know this is the number one way to build your confidence in yourself to achieve your dreams?

It all boils down to this: building a reputation with yourself! What kind of reputation? A history of keeping the promises you make to you.

In fact, years ago, my dad heard this in his spirit while praying,

"If you'll keep your word to yourself, you'll never question whether or not God will keep His word to you."

## THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON TO KEEP YOUR PROMISES TO, IS YOURSELF.

# I WILL MAINTAIN MY INTEGRITY UNTIL I DIE

JOB 27:5

#### 4. Determine to Keep Your Promise to Yourself

Why is this so important? Because you have to believe in you in order to be successful. You have to *believe* that you deserve to win. You deserve to have the dreams that are in your heart.

I was listening to an interview with fitness experts, Chris and Heidi Powell. Chris said, "When I see someone who is 200 pounds overweight, I don't see 200 pounds of extra body fat; I see 200 pounds of broken promises to themselves."

Heidi said, "When you try and fail and try and fail and you don't keep your promises, you don't believe yourself. You don't believe you can do it. When you make a promise and break it, it affects your dignity. Set another promise, break it, your dignity takes another hit. Then, after so many failures, you start making silent promises. 'Diet starts Monday, I'm doing it this time,' and then your co-workers see you downing a pizza and comment, 'I thought the diet started Monday,' then you decide you're not ever telling anyone anymore."

Here's the battle, your personal integrity doesn't know the difference, whether you say it out loud or say it to yourself. Heidi said, "You keep breaking it, and you go lower and lower and lower. You gradually lose your belief in yourself." Eventually what happens is you don't keep your word, so you subconsciously think God doesn't either.

How do you break that pattern? Reverse the process! This is how you become unstoppable. You start building a winning

4. Determine to Keep Your Promise to Yourself

streak of keeping your promise to yourself in the little things.

Make one simple promise to yourself and keep it no matter what. It could be:

- 1. **Read** one Proverb every day.
- 2. Wake up ten minutes earlier.
- 3. **Listen** to one message while you're getting ready each day.
- 4. **Drink** one bottle of water every day.

Once you know you can keep your word with a few simple things, it builds your reputation with yourself; it builds momentum, and that builds your faith! When you've successfully kept your word with yourself for three weeks, you begin to confidently think, "What else can I do? I'm a goal-setting machine!"

So many times, when we look at other people, we see the glory, but we don't see the story. Back in 2002, I had to make a decision to not be like a plastic bag in the middle of a parking lot, just floating around with every gust of wind. I had to get focused on my new identity—my new reputation with myself first—before anyone else noticed it. I didn't tell a soul what I was doing. I had to learn to keep my promises to me. Once I estab-

## WALK IN INTEGRITY **PSALM 26:11**

TO BE RESPONSIBLE, KEEP YOUR PROMISES TO OTHERS.

TO BE SUCCESSFUL, KEEP YOUR PROMISES TO YOURSELF.

- MARIE FORLEO -

#### 4. Determine to Keep Your Promise to Yourself

lished my own reputation with myself, others began to notice. As my integrity grew, I trusted more in God's.

#### **Action Steps**

Select one promise you are going to keep with yourself and you'll build your confidence like never before. Create a winning streak, starting today.

SO WHEN YOU MAKE A PROMISE TO GOD,

KEEP IT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

HE HAS NO USE FOR A FOOL.

DO WHAT YOU PROMISE TO DO.

- ECCLESIASTES 5:4



## Do More Than the AVERAGE

# I WOKE UP THIS MORNING AND REALIZED MORNING AND REALIZED I DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO SIT BACK AND BE AVERAGE.

In prayer one day, the Lord said to me, "Don't be average and your life won't be average."

The emphasis is on the understood "you" in that command. You don't be average, and your life won't be average. That applies to everything.

You don't be average, and your career won't be average.

**You don't be average,** and your opportunities won't be average.

You don't be average, and your body won't be average.

**You don't be average,** and your salary won't be average.

**You don't be average,** and your ministry, friendships, vacations, book deals, negotiations, etc. won't be average.

GET UP, FOR THIS MATTER IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, AND WE WILL SUPPORT YOU.

BE STRONG AND TAKE ACTION!

**EZRA 10:4** 

#### 5. Do More Than the Average

Today, my life is anything but average. However, it required *me* going above average.

How can you achieve a crazy dream if you're not willing to do something crazy? This is an interesting little trick that works. It's subtle, but it makes a big difference. I didn't even realize it was happening to me until someone pointed it out, and it goes hand-in-hand with keeping your promises to yourself.

Here's the trick: If you really want to kick it up a notch in achieving your big impossible-looking dreams, then do more than the average person is willing to do.

Ed Mylett said it this way, "Something powerful happens when you do things other people aren't willing to do. You start to believe you should be able to have things that other people aren't willing to have."

We see this throughout the Bible. People who got a major breakthrough did extra! They went above and beyond what most people would be willing to do. When you read the Bible closely, you will discover a pattern. The majority of people who received a miracle from God went way beyond the average!

In Mark 2 we see this illustrated when a paralyzed guy and his four friends ripped a hole in someone's roof to see Jesus. When they arrived at the house where Jesus was preaching, it was so crowded that they couldn't get in. They could have assumed (as many of us would) that it must not be God's will or else

#### 5. Do More Than the Average

there would have been enough room for them in the house. But no, they didn't passively wait for everything to align and fall into place. They took action and went after it. They climbed on top of the roof, made a large hole, and lowered their friend in front of Jesus. When Jesus saw their faith, he gave the man what he was after: His dream of being healed was fulfilled.

The woman with the issue of blood was determined as she fought her way through the crowd saying, "If I touch His garment, I will be healed." What happened? Jesus gave her the desires of her heart because she had aggressive faith. (See Luke 8:43–48.)

Blind Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by and cried out, saying, "Have mercy on me!" The people around rebuked him, telling him to be quiet. He could have shrunk down to their requests, but instead, he shouted even louder. His faith got the attention of Jesus, and he was healed. (See Mark 10:46–52.) He had aggressive faith, and his dream was achieved.

The Bible says, "When Jesus saw their faith..." (Mark 2:5). How can you see faith? Faith is invisible. What He saw was their action. He saw that they were willing to do what most people wouldn't do. The Bible also says in James 2:17 that faith without action is dead!

Let me ask you, can Jesus see your faith—your action? Are you doing more than the average person is willing to do?

### "DON'T BE AVERAGE • AND YOUR LIFE • WON'T BE AVERAGE!"

- TERRI SAVELLE FOY -

	THE PEOPLE  WHO KNOW  THEIR GOD  WILL DISPLAY  STRENGTH AND  TAKE ACTION.  DANIEL 11:32						

Remember the Lord said to me:

#### "Don't be average and your life won't be average."

#### What is the average person doing?

While the average person watches 4–6 hours of TV a day, you don't. You turn it off and go read an inspirational book for 20 minutes. While the average person listens to music on the way to work, you listen to motivational podcasts. While the average person oversleeps by 30 minutes every morning, you get up earlier and spend time with God, invest in yourself, and journal your time with the Lord. While the average person complains about never having time to work out, you say, "My body is worth at least 20 minutes a day." And you go for a walk.

Let me tell you what happens when you begin thinking this way. All this above-average work begins to shift your identity. You subconsciously begin to believe that you deserve to be re-

#### 5. Do More Than the Average

warded in ways others aren't because you're doing things others aren't willing to do.

Let me point out real quickly that you can do more than you think you can! You can do more to reach your goals and live your dreams. If you do what everyone else is doing, expect to get what everyone else is getting.

Every bit of extra that you do adds up. If you just do one more minute of cardio over the course of a year, that's 365 more minutes, or six more hours of going beyond average.

Again, something powerful happens when you do things other people aren't willing to do: You start to believe you should be able to have things that other people aren't willing to have.

#### **Action Steps**

Decide on one area where you will go beyond average this week. Maybe it's waking up ten minutes earlier than normal to go pray, exercise, or read. Then keep the promise to yourself!





#### Declare a **FAST**

## Have you battled in a certain area of your life repeatedly?

Are you desperate for a breakthrough in that area? Nothing you do seems to be working. There are no opportunities. You have seen nothing change. Let me tell you, fasting is the game changer!

As Christians, we know that God wants us to give, pray, and at times, fast. Throughout the Word of God, Jesus made the statements, "When you give," "When you pray," and "When you fast." Not *if*, but *when*. He made it clear that fasting is just as important as praying and giving.

I love how Jentezen Franklin explains it in his book, *Fasting*. "Could we be missing our greatest breakthroughs because we fail to fast? Remember the 30-fold, 60-fold, and 100-fold the Bible talks about? Look at it this way: when you pray, you release the 30 fold return; when you pray and give, you release the 60-fold blessing, but when praying, giving, and fasting are part of your life, the 100-fold return is released in your life!"



### **FASTING**

IS TRULY A SECRET
SOURCE OF POWER.

### 6. Declare a Fast

What prayers are not being answered or dreams not being achieved because we're not fasting? On July 26th, when I heard in prayer the phrase, "Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!" I decided to declare a fast from August 1 until August 31. As I shared with you in the introduction, what a difference one month of enlarged faith can produce. Not only did God enable me to achieve most of my goals within a month, but I believe fasting positioned me to not only receive the largest financial breakthrough I've personally had in my life, but on the last day of the fast, our ministry also received the largest financial breakthrough we have ever had.

I shared this biblical principle of fasting with my twenty-year-old niece before she headed back to school for her junior year of college. She had never fasted before, but when she heard these principles I'm telling you, she said, "Aunt Terri, I'm doing it. I need some breakthroughs. I want direction for my life. I have some big goals."

Only two weeks into her fast, she sent me a message that said, "I'm in shock, Aunt Terri! I got blessed with all new furniture for my apartment, my car was falling apart, and my dad gave me his car, and I was given \$1,000 for college!" She continued to say, "I truly know that God sees me and has a plan for me. My faith has gotten so much stronger, and I actually feel that I'm called for something great."

## SO WE FASTED AND PETITIONED OUR GOD ABOUT THIS, AND HE ANSWERED OUR PRAYER.

- EZRA 8:23

### 6. Declare a Fast

Do you need clarity for your life? Are you still unsure exactly what God wants you to do? Here are just a few examples of what happened throughout the Bible when fasts were declared:

- Paul was fasting when God called him and shared His assignment for his life. (See Acts 9:9.)
- Peter was fasting on the rooftop when God gave him a new assignment.
   (See Acts 10:9–10.)
- Jesus was fasting in the desert before He launched His ministry. (See Mark 4:1–11.)

Fasting will bring you into alignment with God's assignment. When you have a big dream that seems completely out of reach, declare a fast. Call on heaven. Sacrifice something your flesh craves in order to draw closer to God, gain sensitivity to the Holy Spirit, and allow God to work wonders in your life.

Simply put, fasting is giving up something (most commonly food) and replacing that with additional time praying and reading of God's Word. The Bible tells us that God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6). When you fast, you are seeking God, and there are rewards that come with doing so.



# YOU INTO ALIGNMENT WITH GOD'S ASSIGNMENT.

- TERRI SAVELLE FOY -



## SO AFTER THEY HAD FASTED AND PRAYED, THEY PLACED THEIR HANDS ON THEM AND SENT THEM OFF.

- ACTS 13:3

### 6. Declare a Fast

What should you fast? You choose. It could be fasting sweets for 21 days or 3 days or 1 full day. You decide. You could fast breads, sugary drinks, or meats. I love how Jentezen Franklin points out that if it means something to you, it means something to God.

If you've got this feeling inside that God is getting you ready for a big dream or a new beginning, fasting prepares your heart like nothing else.

### **Action Steps**

Declare a fast. Choose something your flesh craves and make a quality decision to go without that food for a period of time. Choose a start date. Select how many days you will fast and determine which foods you will sacrifice for this period of time.



I learned this powerful principle from my dad that states, "You may not have what you need, but you're never without the seed that will produce it."

When you're desperate for a breakthrough...

You can't read your way into a breakthrough.

You can't listen your way into a breakthrough.

You can't exercise your way into a breakthrough.

But you CAN give your way into a breakthrough.

"

### A GENEROUS PERSON

WILL PROSPER;

WHOEVER REFRESHES

OTHERS WILL

BE REFRESHED.

- PROVERBS 11:25 -

# WE MAKE A LIVING EY WHAT WE GET, EUT WE MAKE A LIFE EY WHAT WE GIVE,

- WINSTON CHURCHILL -

When the Lord said to me, "Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!" I did everything I'm telling you to do in this book. The Lord told me to teach you straight from experience.

On the day He spoke to me, I was preparing for our Icing Women's Event. We had stepped out and rented a larger arena for our women's conference, and I was declaring our goals and standing in faith. However, it dawned on me that I had not sown a seed for this conference.

I told my CEO right then to send a check to someone else who was having a conference. But to be honest, it wasn't a "memorable" seed. It didn't affect us at all, and it was basically forgettable. But it was still seed in the ground.

Well, when you're believing for a breakthrough, you need to sow a breakthrough seed. If you want a small change, sow a small seed. If you want significant change, sow a significant seed.

Like I mentioned earlier, not one goal I had set for that year had been achieved up until August 1, and I was just about to reduce my goals. Right then and there I decided to:

### 1. Dream as big as I could.

(Leave those big goals in my notebook.)

### 2. Declare what I believe.

(If you can't speak faith, don't speak at all.)

### 3. Deliberately choose my input.

(Get around higher temperature people.)

4. Determine to keep my promises to myself.

(Practice integrity.)

5. Do more than the average.

(I did more of nearly everything.)

6. Declare a fast.

(I fasted the whole month of August.)

7. Designate a memorable offering.

(Memorable means you don't forget.)

### This will get your dream in motion!

Knowing I needed to sow a memorable seed, I asked God what I should do as I got ready to fly to speak at a conference in Tampa, Florida. When I arrived, the woman putting this event on apologized to me. This was her first attempt at a conference and things did not come together like she expected and the attendance was low.

The Lord prompted me to sow the entire amount she was paying to cover the travel and lodging costs for me and my assistant, as well as the offering, back into her. When I told her I was sowing the entire cost of the conference back into her, she immediately broke down and started crying. She said that in order to make the conference happen, she had actually used her child's tuition money and didn't know how she was going to make it up.

Now that's a memorable seed!

As we headed back to the airport to fly home, our driver started talking about how she was believing to sell her house and move to a new city. I wanted to sow into her life, especially since I was believing to build my new home. I reached into my purse and remembered someone had given me a large amount of cash that I was saving to go shopping. I grabbed some of it to give to her, and the Lord whispered to my heart to make it memorable. I knew what that meant. I took all the shopping money and sowed into her move.

When I got home, I thought, *Let's keep this going*. I sowed a significant seed for each of my top ten goals for the year. I wrote out ten checks and the Lord told me to mail them that very day. I've learned that delayed obedience is still disobedience so I had them in the mail that afternoon.

Can you guess what happened and what changed after I did that?!

Nothing. In the natural everything looked the same.

But I knew in the supernatural realm, things were changing. I started acting like the contestants on *The Price Is Right*. Even though they haven't won anything when their name is called, they start jumping and bouncing like they've already got the big prize.

That's how I acted. The devil tried to make me think I was stupid for giving. I just paid my own way to a meeting and gave them the offering, emptied out my purse, gave away ten big checks for my goals, and nothing seemed to be changing. But I kept walking around my house shouting and thanking God as though I had my breakthrough.

Then I heard the Lord say to me, "The moment the seed left your hand, I released what's in mine."

Can I share with you what happened within a month of doing this?

- 1. I received the largest financial breakthrough I have ever had in my life!
- 2. A big dream I had for several years suddenly happened.
- 3. Eight of my top ten goals were quickly achieved.

WILL GIVE TO YOU. INDEED,
YOU WILL RECEIVE A FULL
MEASURE, A GENEROUS
HELPING, POURED INTO
YOUR HANDS—ALL THAT YOU
CAN HOLD. THE MEASURE YOU
USE FOR OTHERS IS THE ONE
THAT GOD WILL USE FOR YOU.

**LUKE 6:38 GNT** 

YOU MAY NOT HAVE
WHAT YOU NEED,
BUT YOU'RE NEVER
WITHOUT THE SEED
THAT WILL PRODUCE IT!
- JERRY SAVELLE -

I'm telling you today: Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!

Maybe you feel like I did. "Nothing is changing. I'm not accomplishing my goals. My prayers haven't been answered." That's why the Lord told me to share with you exactly what He taught me.

Do you remember the story of the little boy with the fishes and the loaves from Mark 6 and Luke 9? It didn't look like much compared to the size of the need, but it was all he had. Notice the boy didn't give Jesus one fish and say, "Can I keep the other one?" He gave Jesus everything he had.

The boy who gave his all was crucial to the miracle. He didn't partially obey; he fully obeyed. God isn't trying to take what you have; He's looking to give you what He has.

After putting the little he had into the hands of Jesus, he left there with more than enough in leftovers!

### Who's in Control?

The lifetime odds of dying in an airplane crash are 1 out of 4.6 million, while the odds of dying in a car accident are 1 out of 125. In other words, you are 39,000 times more likely to die from a car accident than a plane crash. Yet, despite the odds, millions of adults who have no fear of driving have a fear of flying. Why? The answer is simple. In a car, they feel like they are in control, while

on a plane, they feel like they're not. When we feel out of control in any situation, we feel frightened or panicked.

When you give, you are saying, "God is in control." When you give Him your substance, He'll give you abundance. Remember, the moment the seed leaves your hand, God releases what is in His hand.

When you give God what you've got, He'll turn it into a lot. Things won't be added in your life; they'll be multiplied before your eyes. When you give Him what appears small, He'll take what you have and give you His all. And you'll watch His supernatural multiplication take place in your life.

### God is telling you today, "Don't shrink your dream! Enlarge your faith!"

### **Action Steps**

Sow a memorable seed for your breakthrough. Put action to your faith and give something that means something to you, something not easily forgotten. When you do, you position yourself to receive the supernatural abundance God has for you.



**Terri Savelle Foy** is the Founder of Terri Savelle Foy Ministries. She is an author, a conference speaker, and a success coach to hundreds of thousands of people all over the world. Her weekly podcast is a lifeline of hope and inspiration to people around the world.

Terri is a cheerleader of dreams and is convinced that "if you can dream it, God can do it." She is known across the globe as a world-class motivator of hope and success through her transparent

and humorous teaching style. Terri's unique ability to communicate success strategies in a simple and practical way has awakened the dreams of the young and old alike.

Terri shares from personal experience the biblical concepts of using the gift of the imagination to reach full potential in Jesus Christ. From stay-at-home moms to business executives, Terri consistently inspires others to go after their dreams.

Terri and her husband, Rodney Foy, have been married since 1991, and are the parents of a beautiful redheaded daughter, Kassidi Cherie. They live near Dallas, Texas.

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