

# She Believes

## BOOK STUDY: SESSION FIVE

with Debbie Lindell

**I am especially excited about this week's study.** Just imagine for a moment what would happen if every girl walking through this study would actively pursue or purposefully pray about the dream God was speaking to her heart. What would happen in the setting she is in? Whose lives would be impacted by her faith to step out and respond to what God is calling her to do?

**So get ready to explore what it looks like to believe God for great things in your future and the dreams he has placed in your heart. And then watch what happens next!**

The Bible is filled with stories about people to whom God spoke big, seemingly impossible dreams . . . and it still happens today! Each and every dream that he gives to people is meant to bring him glory, as they use their unique personalities, gifts, and talents to connect with his plan for their lives.

It is the same for you! Your life, your personality, your gifts, and your talents were designed to work in conjunction with his plan to bring about his will on the earth. Wow! That, my friend, is an incredible thought. God wants to use you to make himself known! But here's the deal: the only way for that to happen is for you to believe that he can, and to walk close enough to him that you can know what he is calling you to do. God is not a respecter of people. He doesn't give big dreams and ideas just to brunettes or to girls who were raised in church and got saved when they were two years old. Okay, that is a bit of an exaggeration, but I am sure you get what I am saying. Satan wants you to think that God only picks his "favorite" girls to share dreams with and to do big things for him. Can you guess why Satan would tell you that lie? Could it be to stop you from believing you are worth using? The fact is, no matter where you are from, how old or young you are, when you got saved, or whether or not you have read through *The One Year Bible*, he has incredible plans and dreams for your life. The issue isn't even how big or small the dream is. That's up to God. The issue is your faith and believing that he can use you!

## SESSION FIVE: BELIEVING IS FOR YOUR FUTURE

(Chapters 16–18)

Do you remember the story I shared in chapters 16 and 17 of *She Believes*, the one where I sensed God speaking to me about taking a trip to Sydney, Australia? From a geographical perspective, that is the exact opposite side of the earth from where I live. And not only that, getting there from here requires a fifteen-hour flight . . . 40,000 feet off the ground. And I am deathly afraid of heights! Does God have a sense of humor or what?

At the time, I had no clue why he would even be suggesting such a thing, so I just kept praying. Over the next several months, he confirmed through everyday circumstances and unexpected situations that I was truly hearing from him. Six months later, I was in Australia!

We have a little saying at our church that goes like this: “The best is yet to come!” We not only say it, we believe it—for our church as a whole and for each and every individual. You see, when a person or a body of believers is fully connected to the heart of God and seeking to do his will in every way, they can know that he has good things planned for their future. He wants to bless them and to use them in supernatural ways that are beyond their human ability to make happen. And it’s the same for you, my friend: when you are following Jesus closely, the best is yet to come!

**REFLECTION TIME:**

*Open your Bible. Listen to Jesus. Write in your journal.*

Have you ever felt God whispering something to you, something that seemed beyond your comprehension or that you didn't feel you had the faith to believe was possible? Has something been stirring in your heart that you think is from God, but you feel inadequate or incapable of even taking the first step to make it happen? Welcome to the world of living by faith! The truth is, none of us is capable of doing great things for God without his power at work within us. But when you believe that he can use you, and step out in faith and obedience to do what he is calling you to do, that, my friend, is when you see impossible dreams become possible!

**Read Ephesians 3:20–21 (The Message):**

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.

Here in Ephesians, Paul is writing to believers to encourage them to believe that God can do anything, even things that they could not imagine on their own. I want to invite you to consider the following questions.

- Have you sensed God whispering an idea or dream to your heart, one that seems altogether impossible?
- If you feel like God is calling you to do something beyond your human ability, what is keeping you from taking a step of faith to see it come to reality?
- With regard to this Scripture passage, who works within you to help you accomplish God's will in your life? How does he work? How does that thought make you feel?

**Want to go deeper? I invite you to take a moment to consider how these verses relate to God's plan for your life and the dreams he has placed in your heart.**

- That every person has purpose and works to do for God. Read Ephesians 2:10.
- That God used Moses, a person who felt insecure about his ability. Read Exodus 4:10-11.
- That when ordinary people like Mary say yes to God, he can make impossible things happen through their lives. Read Luke 1:31-38.
- That as a believer in Christ Jesus, you have all the strength you need to accomplish his will. Read Philippians 4:13.

### ***THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE:***

God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working within us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us. (Ephesians 3:20-21 The Message)

### ***MY FAITH DECLARATION:***

I believe that God wants to take me places I never dreamed of going and use me in ways I never imagined possible. Even though today, for whatever reason, I may not be able to see how the dreams God has placed in my heart could become a reality, by faith I choose to humbly listen for his voice and not to let insecurity or fear keep me from being obedient to what he calls me to do.

### ***PERSONAL CHALLENGE:***

**Take time to pray and journal about the following.**

- What dream do I feel God wanting me to pursue that my resources, insecurities, or circumstances are causing me to doubt?
- Have I sought wise and godly counsel to confirm that it is the right time to pursue what is in my heart?
- What next step should I take to see if it is time to move forward with what I feel God is calling me to do?

***SISTERHOOD CHALLENGE:***

In your next conversation with a friend, invite her to share with you what God is speaking to her heart about the future. Encourage her faith, and affirm to her that he can use her life to do big things for him!

***MY PRAYER FOR YOU:***

Dear heavenly Father, today I pray that my friend would walk by faith regarding the dream or idea you have placed in her heart. Whether her dream is to pursue a different career, get a college degree, become a mom, go into missions, or serve in her church, I ask you to confirm that what she is sensing is from you. Remind her today that, as your Word says, you can do anything—more than she could ask or imagine in her wildest dreams—and help her to take a step of faith to make that dream become reality. Bless her in every way as she seeks to do your will, and help her to always and forever believe you for impossible things! In Jesus's name, amen.

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