

## **Week 4**

### **RUNNING AFTER THE DREAM**

Habakkuk 2:2 (NKJV)

“...Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.”

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Every champion first saw it in his mind before experiencing it in reality. No one wins a championship without having a clear goal. No one perseveres if they do not know where they are going. The problem is not that people do not have dreams... the problem is that many give up before seeing them fulfilled. That is why the Bible says: “Write the vision...” Because when you have vision, you have direction, and when you have direction, you can run to win.

#### **1. DREAMS GIVE YOU DIRECTION IN THE RACE.** Habakkuk 2:2

Vision shows you where to run. What is not clear is not pursued with determination.

Example: an athlete without a goal trains without focus; a person without vision simply reacts to life. What you write down becomes real. Writing helps you define and commit yourself. It is not just thinking about it; it is deciding: “This is what I am going to pursue.”

God places dreams in your heart with purpose. They are not merely emotional desires; they carry God's direction. He has good plans for your life.

“For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.” Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT)

#### **2. THE STRUGGLE IS PART OF THE PROCESS TOWARD THE DREAM.**

Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

— “So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.”

Every dream faces resistance. There may be weariness, doubts, and opposition.

Example: starting something with enthusiasm but losing strength along the way. But remember, resistance does not cancel your dream—it confirms that you are on the right path. And when you feel like giving up, remember this: “Don't give up.” Resistance does not cancel your dream; it confirms that you are on the right path.

The process is shaping you. It is not stopping you... it is preparing you.

Example: difficulties in family, work, or finances that develop character. God uses the process to give you the maturity you will need when you reach the goal. Do not interpret the struggle as failure.

Feeling tired does not mean you are going in the wrong direction. Fatigue is part of the training, not the end of the race. Sometimes what seems like a setback is actually part of the momentum that will help you move forward more strongly.

#### **3. PERSEVERANCE LEADS YOU TO THE FINISH LINE.**

The winner is not the one who starts, but the one who refuses to give up on the dream. Many begin with enthusiasm but quit when things become difficult.

Example: people who start a project, a personal goal, or a life change but abandon it halfway through. The difference is not who dreamed the biggest dream, but who decided not to quit when the process became difficult. The difference is not who dreamed the biggest dream, but who decided not to give up.

Consistency brings your dream closer to reality. What you do consistently brings you closer every day to what you are believing for.

Your dream is not fulfilled overnight; it is built step by step. Small daily actions are what turn a dream into reality.

You are closer than you think to seeing your dream fulfilled. Many people give up just before seeing the result. Do not quit when you are closer than when you started. What you cannot see today is already moving forward... your dream is closer than you imagine.

#### CONCLUSION:

Fatigue is part of the race, but it is not the finish line. In this life, the winner is not the fastest or the strongest—the winner is the one who refuses to give up. Maybe today you cannot run like you used to, but you can still keep moving forward.

Because moving forward does not always mean running... sometimes it simply means not stopping. Do not give up on the dream God has placed in your heart. Even if you do not see results yet, God is still working in the process. So today, make a decision: “Don’t give up.” Because if you refuse to quit, you will reach the finish line and see fulfilled what God has called you to do.

#### SALVATION PRAYER:

Lord Jesus, I acknowledge that I have sinned and that You died for me. Today I repent and ask for Your forgiveness. I give You my life and my heart so that You may be my Lord and personal Savior. Amen.

#### MEMORY VERSE: Habakkuk 2:2 (NKJV)

“...Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it.”

#### INTERACTIVE QUESTIONS:

1. What dream or goal do you feel you have stopped pursuing, and why?
2. What has most caused you to doubt or stop pursuing that dream?
3. What decision do you need to make this week to keep moving toward your dream?

#### GROUP ACTIVITY: “Recovering the Dream”

Everyone close their eyes for a moment.

“Think about that dream or goal you once had... something that excited you, something you believed could happen... but over time it began to fade away.”

“What happened? At what point did you stop believing or stop moving forward?”

Open your eyes and share with the person next to you the dream you remembered and what stopped them.

#### PRACTICAL APPLICATION FOR THE WEEK:

Write down one clear dream or goal this week.

- Pray for that dream every day.
- Take one practical step toward that dream (a phone call, a decision, a habit change, etc.)