



Inspired to Inspire.

CHAPTER 12

Inspired to Inspire

'Everyone can be great, because everyone can serve.' —Martin Luther King Jr

'What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.' —Albert Pine, American Author

YOU ARE A DREAM CATALYST

President John F. Kennedy and Neil Armstrong

There are some dreams that will lay the foundations for someone else to fulfil. You can have and dream, and empower and inspire someone who's either in a specialised field or generation to do it. These people are called dreamers or visionaries. They carry the initial dream and then God brings people to help to execute it. Let's use President Kennedy as an example. In a speech made on May 25 1961, he said *'I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the earth.'*

President Kennedy had a dream and he inspired NASA to be birthed. On June 20, 1969, eight years after his dream, it became a reality. But it was Neil Armstrong who fulfilled the President's dream, as well as without a doubt, his own.

Another example is David. He had a dream and a vision to build God a temple yet God told him that his son, Solomon would build it instead. 1 Chronicles 22:7-9 David said to Solomon: *"My son, I had it in my heart to build a house for the Name of the LORD my God. But this word of the LORD came to me: 'You have shed much blood and have fought many wars. You are not to build a house for my Name, because you have shed much blood on the earth in my sight. But you will have a son who will be*

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a man of peace and rest, and I will give him rest from all his enemies on every side. His name will be Solomon, and I will grant Israel peace and quiet during his reign.(NIV)

There are some dreams you have dreamt that God will guide you to lay foundations for, that your children will fulfil, and even some your children's children. *Proverbs 13:22 'A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children.'* (NIV) *This is why God wants us to dream big dreams, dreams beyond today, dream into the future and into generations unborn. Martin Luther King Jnr had a dream beyond his lifetime and that was for racial equality. Today, the President of the United States of America is living that dream.*

When your words and actions cause someone to fulfil their dream, you are living the life of an influencer, world-transformer and nation-mover. Leadership isn't rising above another, it is to support another to rise above all. To be an inspiration, you must first be inspired, *'for you cannot give out of that which you do not have'* (Acts 3:6). For me, God is my inspiration, first and foremost. I cannot describe the immense difference the spirit of God makes in my life. God will breathe a word in my spirit and just like Jeremiah 20:9 *'But if I say, "I will not mention him or speak any more in his name," his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in; indeed, I cannot.'*

I start preaching and it will literally feel like fire on my inside; the infilling and dynamics the Holy Spirit administers are amazing. It's like a power source, a generator. The more of it I have, the more inspired I become and the more I am able to inspire others, and develop faith in taking new challenges and adventures.

God's word is life and therefore if you read and your spirit connects, you receive the life of the word which raised Jesus from the dead. So imagine how much energy and passion you will be buzzing with. If God's word doesn't inspire you and motivate you, then I'm sorry my friend, I don't know what will. If it quickens even the dead, how much more the living?

'To teach is great... but to INSPIRE is divine.'

—Vikas Khanna, Food Writer

Recently I watched a movie called *Invictus*, based on the true story of Nelson Mandela and the Springboks rugby team. The movie was so

inspiring; illustrating how South Africa's struggling rugby team redeemed themselves and made it to the top in the world league. In the movie, Nelson Mandela, played by Morgan Freeman, as the leader of the nation called a meeting with the captain, played by Matt Damon. And behind closed doors, Nelson Mandela gives him a motivational message. Mandela told him he believed in them, and against all odds they could still win.

Watching it on the big screen, something about that portion of the movie lifted my spirit and even spoke to me, and I'm sure Matt felt the same as he boldly walked out of the room to motivate his team members.

The Springboks won. The moral of the story? How powerful is the ability to influence; one man inspires one man, who inspires a team, who in turn inspire a nation! Inspiration is contagious! Do you know that you could inspire someone to become the next Bill Gates, or the next Bishop T. D. Jakes, or the next Prime Minister? All it takes is a belief in them and telling them every day. Start by encouraging the people around you—your family, your church, and your workplace or sports club. Everywhere you go, don't hesitate to encourage someone. Your words could persuade them to chase their dreams.

I have realised and experienced myself in life that whatever you give comes back to you, often double fold. (Thank you God!) People know me to be an inspirational person, they know me to be the 'motivational guy'. I'm often asked, *'where do you get your inspiration from?'* I always respond *'I get it from you', the same people that I inspire.'*

God inspires me to then inspire; Acts 3:16, *'What I have I give to you'*. It is the feedback and the lives of those around me being changed, the people who I encounter, that gives me the fuel to keep on inspiring. My primary calling is to inspire people (hence Inspired To Inspire), to see people's dreams come to pass whether through music, through book writing or through fashion. I want to see the best in people come out. I want people to rise up out of mediocrity and into excellence, becoming all that they were born to become.

WORDS THAT INSPIRE

My heart for people is to reach their full potential. Therefore I'm careful of the words I use around those I encounter. I use words that provoke and cause a stirring in their hearts and their minds. Words are powerful, and I'm very sensitive that negative words can pull people down, causing them to feel like nothing.

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Proverbs 11:9 'With their mouths the godless destroy their neighbours.' (NIV)

Proverbs 12:18 'Words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.' (NIV). We need to be careful of the words we use. Many people we encounter have had too many negative words spoken over them by their teachers, parents and friends. We have a vital opportunity to tell them otherwise, tell them what God thinks about them, how beautiful they look (boys, don't take advantage of that statement), the potential they have. Words have so much impact, they can change someone's day for the better.

Proverbs 12:25 'Anxiety weighs the heart down, but a kind word cheers it up'. Imagine making someone's day a whole lot better, simply by speaking encouraging words to them. You will meet people every day of your life that God can put a word on your heart to share with them

Proverbs 15:23 "How good is a timely word." (NIV) Be obedient when you feel there is a word you're being prompted by the spirit of God to speak to anyone, especially strangers. They are the people we're least comfortable with and most likely to ignore.

Isaiah 50:4 'The sovereign Lord has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weak'. (NIV)

Isaiah 51:16 'I have put my words in your mouth' (NIV)
Above all, let us not underestimate the power of words. *Whoever controls your tongue controls your destiny, watch your words for they are creating your future*

Proverbs 18:20 'From the fruit of their mouth's people stomach's are filled; with the harvest of their lips they are satisfied. The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat it's fruit.' (NIV)

On the journey of chasing my dreams and seeking to inspire a generation, I have made an observation; a dream can never be about one person. If it is, it is not a dream. Dreamers are people who have been blessed and

they then become a blessing onto others. Dreamers are people who are inspired and they then inspire others.

Had the four lepers in 2 Kings not taken a step of faith and gone, they would have denied a whole generation of the blessing of wealth and prosperity. God blessed the lepers to become a blessing onto their nation. In the same way, you and I have been blessed by God with abilities and gifting to become a blessing to our families, city, work, nation and the nations of the world.

'Without inspiration the best powers of the mind remain dormant, there is a fuel in us which needs to be ignited with sparks.' —*Johann Gottfried Von Herder, German Poet*

When we fail to step out, not only are we denying ourselves of God's promise for our lives but more importantly we deny people and a whole generation of the blessing God has blessed us with. Understand that there are people somewhere in your city, in your work, in your nation and God has strategically positioned you where you are to become a blessing to them. There are broken people, hurting people, sick people, depressed people and you have been called for such a time as this, wherever you are to step out in the blessing from God of gifting to become a blessing to these people.

Jesus said in Isaiah 61:1-4 'The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.' (KJV)

Everything Jesus did, we have been blessed and empowered to do, and even greater!

John 14:12 'I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater

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things than these, because I am going to the Father.'

One of my main motivators in life is that I'm called to uplift people through the transforming word of God. I believe I'm called to speak encouragement and to help build up others. Like Paul, I know the life I live it is no longer I, but Christ who dwells in me therefore just as Jesus said 'Not my will but God's will be done.'

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."—John Quincy Adams

God has not called us to our will but to His will and His will is his people. His will is to have more of His sons and daughters come back into relationship with him. His will is that his people are set free and they gain dominion over the enemy, and for this work God says 'I choose you!' Yes you! Will you step up and say 'not my will but yours' and give of all you have for the cause of the Lord, for the glory of His kingdom and master plan?

The choice is yours. It's a choice that will mark the rest of your life with either excellence and exploits for the kingdom of God or mediocrity and fear.

'The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.' —Mahatma Gandhi.

You have been freely blessed and imparted great talents and gifting, and now the challenge is to live a life of giving all that you have. Live a life so that when your time is up, you go to transition, you leave empty. No one has ever been honoured for what they received, every person that is ever honoured, is honoured for what they gave. Remember that the world owes you nothing, we are here to give of our talents, and to leave this earth a better place than we were born into it. However it may be expressed, this is the reason you and I exist.



» *Your words and action have power—be mindful what you speak and how you act because you are a leader and many are looking at your example.*

Proverbs 15:23 "How good is a timely word." (NIV)

» *Your words and actions can cause someone else to fulfil their dream.*

» *Leadership isn't rising above another, it is to support another to rise above all.*

YOUR SCRIBBLINGS

What is your dream for future generations?

What is your vision and legacy that you want to leave?

Who are you inspiring to fulfil a dream, whether yours or their own?

