

O748 December 2, 2007

DAY 6: The Day You Get Desperate

(What are you doing that you're doomed for failure unless?)

(SERIES: Everything Begins With A Dream: 06 of 08) by Dr. David Foster

The 6-fold Test of a Worthy Dream

Does it fill a need?

Does it right a wrong?

Does it heal a hurt?

Does it lift a load?

Does it advance the good?

Is it great for God?

"Where do you think all these appalling wars and quarrels come from? Do you think they just happen? Think again. They come about because you want your own way, and fight for it deep inside yourselves. You lust for what you don't have and are willing to kill to get it. You want what isn't yours and will risk violence to get your hands on it. **You wouldn't think of just asking God for it, would you?** And why not? Because you know you'd be asking for what you have no right to. You're spoiled children, each wanting your own way. You're cheating on God. If all you want is your own way, flirting with the world every chance you get, you end up enemies of God and his way. And do you suppose God doesn't care? The proverb has it that 'he's a fiercely jealous lover.' And <u>what he gives in love is far better than anything else you'll find</u>. It's common knowledge that 'God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble.'

So let God work his will in you. Yell a loud no to the Devil and watch him scamper. Say a quiet yes to God and he'll be there in no time. Quit dabbling in sin. Purify your inner life. Quit playing the field. Hit bottom, and cry your eyes out. The fun and games are over. Get serious, really serious. <u>Get down on your knees before the Master; it's the only way you'll get on your feet.</u>" (James 4 MSG)

3 Reasons We Don't Pray

The problem of self-reliance.

"God goes against the <u>willful proud</u>; God gives grace to the <u>willing</u> <u>humble</u>." (James 4:6, MSG)

The problem of self-discipline.

"pray continually;" (1 Th 5:17)

The problem of self-image.

"No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons,[a] neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:37-39 NIV)

In the day of desperation; pray . . .

and you will hear God say "wait, I have a bigger plan."

"For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline." (2 Timothy 1:7 NIV)

and you will hear God say "grow, you need better perspective."

and you will hear God say "slow, my timing is perfect."

"For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay." (Habakkuk 2:3 NIV)

and you will hear God say "go, until you hear a no."

"'Come,' he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. 'You of little faith,' he said, 'why did you doubt?'" (Matthew 14:29-31 NIV)