



NEW BEGINNINGS

BY SHAUN HICKEY

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

(Genesis 1:1 - NKJV)

Are you tired of living a purposeless life and want to see change?
Do you have a vision or desire you would love to see come to pass?
Have you attempted to see your vision established but the initial process began to overwhelm you, causing you to retract?

Whatever your answer you can be assured it is not too late to give it another go, or begin seeking the Lord, opening your heart to receive and ignite the vision He has placed within you. You just need a new beginning!

WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT NEW BEGINNINGS?

- **You receive a new beginning through Jesus Christ:** *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new" (2 Corinthians 5:17)*
- **God encourages you to lay down past failures and begin afresh today:** *"Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. ¹⁹Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert" (Isaiah 43:18-19)*
- **God gives new mercy at the beginning of each day:** *"Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. ²³They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness" (Lamentations 3:22-23)*
- **New beginnings in God come empowered with new hope:** *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 1:3).*

EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD HAS A BEGINNING:

Beginning meaning: The first part or earliest stage of something.

- There was a time in history when the world as we know it did not exist. However, in **the beginning** God created the heavens and earth

- At **the beginning** of our lives, we had to learn how to walk, how to talk, how to read, or ride a bike
- We simply did not arrive at our current level of knowledge or ability; we had to start at **the beginning**.

NEW BEGINNINGS DO NOT REQUIRE RESOURCE, THEY REQUIRE INTENTION:

Intention meaning: To have an idea, a vision, a goal, an aim, or a plan, that you want to see fulfilled.

- *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10)*
- *“For the love of Christ compels us, because we judge thus: that if One died for all, then all died; ¹⁵ and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again” (2 Corinthians 5:14-15)*
- *“Then Paul answered, ‘What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus’” (Acts 21:13).*

SEEK GOD FOR THE VISION, IDEA, OR GOAL:

- *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope” (Jeremiah 29:11)*
- *“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28)*
- *“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them” (Ephesians 2:10).*

UNCOVER THE VISION, IDEA, OR GOAL THAT GOD PUT IN YOUR HEART:

- *“Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart” (Psalm 37:4)*
- *“Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, but a man of understanding will draw it out” (Proverbs 20:5).*

I received some exceptionally good advice in the early days of ministry. I was talking with one of my mentors one evening about my call and he gave me this scripture from Habakkuk:

- *“Then the LORD answered me and said: ‘Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it. ³ For the vision is yet for an appointed time; but at the end it will speak, and it will not lie. Though it tarries, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry’” (Habakkuk 2:3-3).*

To fully capture the vision, I was encouraged to write down everything that was captured in my heart (dream big). This was an awesome experience as God does not look down on a person who dares to dream, and He is very willing to draw you into a secret place to capture His unlimited possibilities and purpose for your life.

- *"How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them!" (Psalm 139:17)*

BREAK IT DOWN:

- *"Then the LORD answered me and said: 'Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it'" (Habakkuk 2:2).*

You need to capture your vision so it can be easily shared, this will also help keep you focused.

I reduced my extended vision down to a small statement that captured everything in my heart. This is how God formed the mission statement for my life: ***"Nations Encountering Jesus Christ through Holy Spirit Power and Fire!"***

IT MAY BEGIN SMALL, IT MAY TAKE TIME, BUT IT WILL GROW:

- *"This vision is for a future time. It describes the end, and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed" (Habakkuk 2:3).*

Stepping out in new beginnings requires a person to walk in humility because God starts small. He then leads us forward slowly.

God needs to increase our capacity to function, strengthen our character, develop our love for others, and monitor how we respond to obedience and discipline. How we respond will determine how quickly, or far He will take us.

GOD ENCOURAGES SMALL BEGINNINGS:

- *"Do not despise these small beginnings, for the LORD rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand" (Zechariah 4:10).*
- *"Though your beginning was small, yet your latter end would increase abundantly" (Job 8:7).*

Jesus received five barley loaves and two small fish from a young boy (see John 6:1-14). At the time this seemed insignificant, but when something small was given to Jesus, He quickly multiplied it and was able to feed thousands. This demonstrates, what we do with our small beginnings matters.

I received a vision of revival the moment I bowed my knee to Jesus Christ. This created a burning hunger for the nations in my heart. This vision was birthed well before I had even preached in my own local church.

WHERE DID I BEGIN?

At the beginning of course. In my prayer room, alone...

I would continually pray and boldly preach the power of God to the painted walls long into the night. It did not matter there was no one to hear me, I was preaching in faith that one day God would provide the audience.

I began praying for people to be healed in my home church environment, among friends, and within the community. From there God opened the door to host public healing and revival meetings.

As I remained faithful in this local environment, allowing God to develop and teach me, in due course He stretched out my tent pegs and took me to minister throughout parts of New Zealand, and then internationally. All according to the dream/vision God had placed in my heart.

But it did not just happen. I had to be intentional about capturing the vision in my heart. Become prayerful and take steps of faith (even when no person was watching) and be obedient and faithful in the small things. From there God made the way.

WHAT'S HINDERING YOUR BEGINNING?

Is it a lack of belief or lack of a vision? Is it fear or doubt? Does the task seem too difficult? Do you lack provision?

Well, here is what God say's...

- **Belief:** *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. ¹³ And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it"* (John 14:12-14)

- **Vision:** *"And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions"* (Joel 2:28)

"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11)

- **Fear:** *"God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind"* (2 Timothy 1:7).

- **Doubt:** *"Jesus answered and said to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done. ²² And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive'"* (Matthew 21:21-22).

- **Too difficult:** *"Jesus looked at them and said to them, 'With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible'"* (Matthew 19:26).

"I will cry out to God Most High, to God who performs all things for me" (Psalm 57:2).

- **Provision:** *"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work"* (2 Corinthians 9:8).

LIVING THE DREAM:

Your dream will not be handed to you on a plate. You must...

- **Lay down the old and step into the new:** *"Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching*

forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:13-14)

- **Have perseverance:** *“And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart” (Galatians 6:9)*
- **Be prayerful:** *“Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer” (Romans 12:12)*
- **Live a life of surrender:** *“Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding, ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths” (Proverbs 3:5-6).*

BEGIN TODAY:

Do not delay living a life of purpose any longer! Your life of new beginnings, intentional living and fulfilment is waiting for you to grab hold of.

Make the decision to step forth in faith and begin today...

- *“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work” (John 9:4)*
- *“Awake, you who sleep, arise from the dead, and Christ will give you light” (Ephesians 5:14)*
- *“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13)*
- *“In the beginning... (your story).”*

THE REWARD:

- *“Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord” (Matthew 25:23)*
- *“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ” (Colossians 3:23-24)*
- *“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸ Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing” (2 Timothy 4:7-8).*

Shaun Hickey

<https://shaunhickeyministries.com>

contact@shaunhickeyministries.com

<https://www.facebook.com/shaun.hickey.7169>

“Nations Encountering Jesus Christ through Holy Spirit Power and Fire!”