

How God Uses Dreams to Direct Us By Karen Sue Nyquist

"And it shall come to pass in the last days,' says God, 'That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams'" (Acts 2:17). The Lord is saying that He is distributing HIs gifts to His children, no matter their age or gender. Let's look at how God uses dreams (and visions) to direct us. I will address visions in another article.

Often we will have a dream and think, "That was strange," and just push it out of our mind or try to figure out what it means. But scripture says, "Do not interpretations belong to God?" (Genesis 40:8). God is such a good Father Who knows how to talk to each of His children. When He sends dreams, He uses symbolism that has specific meanings for the person He's communicating to. We can just ask God, "Was that dream from you and if so, what does it mean?"

If it was from Him, then in His timing, He will give you the interpretation or He could use another Christian who He has anointed in this area. Some people, who are mature in the Lord and filled with the Holy Spirit, are gifted by God to interpret dreams, just as Joseph and Daniel did. You can ask one of them for the interpretation. Next, God will also reveal to you how to apply the interpretation to your life, acting on what He has shown you. Let's use a dream that the Lord recently gave me as an example of how this process works.

"Interpreting the Gospel for Muslims" -Dream Given to Karen Sue Nyquist on 6/7/2022

The Dream

I sign for the Deaf at my church, buy I was really surprised about this dream that the Lord gave me on Tuesday night, 6/7/2022. I dreamt I was interpreting at a Christian conference for a number of sessions. There were a hundreds of people in the sessions, most of which were Christians. I did notice, however, that in each session, there different groups of Arab men who were paying close attention to me and the information that was

being presented. (I knew they were Arabs because they were wearing the customary long white robes and white headdresses.) The Lord revealed to me that in each group, there were both some who were already Christians or were being convinced of the truth of the gospel and those that were not accepting it, remaining Muslim. Some groups had more who were being persuaded and some had less. After the sessions, I saw they were discussing what they had heard.



While I was interpreting and between sessions, as I was walking through the attendees, I felt the anointing and presence of the Holy Spirit in such a strong way.

Upon Waking

When I awoke, I was so pleased about the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit in

the dream, because I have been wanting to get even closer to the Lord, to be used more by Him, and to have a more powerful anointing. Could the dream be from God? But I thought it was too strange that I would be "interpreting" for hearing Muslim men. There were probably Deaf in attendance, that was why I was signing, but the dream never showed any.

This past year, I have been writing tracts to use in witnessing to people of different faiths and/or those who have various needs. Several tracts have been written to witness to Muslims. These have been posted on our church's website (<u>nationtakers.com</u> - click on "Resources" at the bottom of the homepage) with my name as the author. For a few moments, I was afraid. What if Muslims were reading it and getting upset? Could there be negative repercussions? It had not dawned on me that Muslims might even be reading them on our website. But, I had overslept, missed my devotion time, and was late; so I pushed the fearful thoughts away and continued with my day.



Realizing the Dream Was from God

It was not until the following morning, Thursday 6/9/2022, during my devotion time that I realized the dream was from God. As I was reading the Bible, I came to Jesus' parable of the "Wicked Vinedressers" (Matthew 21:33-45). As I read it, I remembered that this is one of the biblical passages that some Muslims use to argue that the Bible points to Islam. These Muslims say that Ishmael was "the stone that was rejected." They believe that because the Jews were not following God correctly and killed both "the son of the vineyard" and some of God's prophets, that God took the "vineyard" from them and gave it to Ishmael's descendants through Mohammed. While reading the parable, I remembered the dream. "Oh God, it was from You," I prayed. "Please, Lord give me the interpretation and application." Part of the interpretation popped into my head immediately. I prayed for God to give me the rest of the interpretation and the application. He showed me in steps, not all at once, what the dream meant and what I should do next.

I suggest that you keep a binder and write down all the dreams and interpretations from the Lord. If God used a dream to get our attention, He has something important to tell us. We will forget it if we don't write it down and keep it in a location where we can easily find it again.

The Interpretation and Application of the Dream

Here's what the Lord showed me:

a) Write More Tracts for Muslims - When I have been writing these tracts for winning Muslims, I chose those Bible verses that they use to try to prove that Muhammed was the prophet that was to come after Jesus. When I explain the true meaning of the verses, I am "interpreting" the gospel for them. The dream showed me that: 1) Some Muslims are hungry for the truth. 2) Some are either now, or soon will be, convinced and are sharing with others. 3) I need to continue to "interpret" passages that they currently misunderstand. 4) We Christians need to reach out to them in love.

b) Witness, Time is Running Out - Many Christians believe that we are living in the last generation before Jesus comes back. Based on many end time signs around us and on

the "parable of the fig tree" (Hosea 9:10; Matthew 24:22-24 - *which was fulfilled on 5/14/1948 when Israel became a nation again*), our time for saving souls is running out. What's even more serious, the time for Muslims and others is running out also! We need to pass out tracts, email them, post them on our social media, mail them, and use any other method the Lord puts on our hearts. It's important to befriend and witness to them, all Muslims, not just Arabs. As we do so, "speaking the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:5), our relationship with the Lord will increase. His power, anointing, presence, and glory will grow in us and through us. We will be fruitful and multiply, as He requires. "I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every *branch* that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit" (John 15:1-2).

c) PRAY! - Pray that our evangelism is anointed, powerful, loving, and effective. Pray for wisdom before and during our witnessing. Pray that they will read Christian materials and the Bible, visit our homepage, and visit our church. Pray for those who have received Christ, that they may be protected from demonic attacks. "And he *who* departs from evil makes himself a prey" (Isaiah 19:15). PRAY FOR THE PREY! Pray that they do not fall back, because pressure from demons, family, and friend may be intense.

d) Disciple - Invite them and bring them to church, Bible Study, Discipleship Class, and New Members Class. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). Encourage them to go to our Deliverance Ministry. Coming out of sin and another religion, they often have demonic strongholds that need to be broken off. "For the weapons of our warfare *are* not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ," (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

God loves Muslims, as He does all people. God is "not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9). There could be other, additional meanings, to this dream. Maybe there are also Deaf Muslims who will be coming to the Lord. Only God knows all of His plans and will show us when He is ready.

Thank You God for Giving Us Your Dreams

Thank You, Lord, for giving us Your dreams and Your interpretations, even as you gave them to Daniel, Joseph, and others in the Old Testament and to Joseph (Mary's husband), John, and others in the New Testament, and to your sons and daughters, young and old, even up to today (Acts 2:17). Let's ask God to speak to us in our dreams. When He uses dreams (and visions), He really gets our attention!

