



JOYCE MEYER  
MINISTRIES®

# BIRTHING YOUR DREAMS & VISIONS

Looking Beyond Where You Are Right Now.

## Teaching Notes by Joyce Meyer

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# *Birthing Your Dreams & Visions*

**Looking Beyond Where You Are Right Now.**

**Teaching by Joyce Meyer**

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# BIRTHING YOUR DREAMS AND VISIONS

## Conception

### I. Everything Starts With A Seed.

A. Cannot have harvest without seed!

1. Dreams, visions, ideas, and hopes are all seeds with ability.

a. **Wishbone but no backbone!**

b. **Idle and bored**

2. Seeds are like **sparks** – they have the ability/possibility to produce great things.

B. God plants a seed, and Satan attempts to abort it.

1. All things are **possible**, but they are not **positively** going to happen.

2. God plants impossible things in men's hearts; and with man it is impossible, but **WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!**

Man can mess it up!

C. Examples of dreams and visions:

1. Lose weight

2. Own your own home or business
3. Be promoted at work
4. Get out of bondage
5. See changes in yourself or family
6. Pastor a church
7. Go to the nations
8. Own a bookstore
9. Be a children's pastor or a worship leader
10. Have an orphanage
11. Be on radio or TV preaching the Gospel
12. Etc.! Etc.! Etc.!

## **II. Conceive – You Cannot Give Birth Until You Conceive.**

- A. **Hebrews 11:11 – By faith Sara conceived and was delivered of a child.**
- B. Conceive (defined) – To become pregnant with; to form in the mind; to think or imagine.
  1. God gives dreams and visions.
  2. You can dream dreams or have visions.  
  
**Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:17 – Old men shall dream dreams; young men shall see visions.**
  3. **Whatever He says, do it!**

**John 2:1-9 – Turns water into wine**

- C. Don't be passive.
  - 1. Be creative – until God gives you a specific vision or dream. Be goal oriented, have purpose, and don't be vague.
- D. **Ephesians 5:15-17** – Do not be vague.
- E. **Isaiah 7:14** – **Spiritual application: Conceive = Believe it.**
  - 1. **Luke 1:26-38** – When God overshadows you
    - a. Mary was not expecting this change in her life. She had her agenda, but she was willing to change.
    - b. **Acts 13:22** – David carried out God's program fully!
  - 2. It sounded impossible, but with God all things are possible.
    - a. **Mark 9:23**
    - b. **Mark 10:27**
    - c. **Mark 14:36** – Must be God's will
    - d. **Mark 14:35** – **Not all “positivelys” but possibilities**
  - 3. **I Samuel 10:6** – When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you are changed into another man with new capabilities.
  - 4. **Luke 1:38** – Mary's part was to agree with God.
- F. **Joshua 1:5** – God promised to be with him.
  - 1. Look at God, not yourself.
  - 2. God needs our “**availability**,” not our “**ability**.”

### III. Burning Desire And Keeping Yourself Stirred Up

- A. Must be as fire shut up in your bones – be **passionate** for the things of God.
  - 1. **Pray for desire if you have none.**
  - 2. **Philippians 2:13 – God puts desire in us.**
- B. **Psalm 42:1** – As the deer pants and longs for the water brooks
- C. Keep the vision in front of you. Get it off the back burner, off of simmer, and onto boil!
  - 1. **Habakkuk 2:2-3** – Write it down and put it up.
    - a. **Keeping something in front of people helps them conceive.**
    - b. **Genesis 30:29-43** – Jacob keeps the vision in front of the cattle; they conceive, and eventually give birth.
- D. Pray about your dreams, visions, and desires.
  - 1. **Mark 11:24** – Whatsoever things ye desire when you pray, believe.  
  
Caution: Do not get so excited over the baby that you forget the Father.
- E. **Psalm 37:4** – Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give you the desires of your heart.
- F. **Galatians 5:17** – Desire of the flesh and desire of the Spirit
  - 1. Lust and desire are two different things.

2. Desire – To set the heart on; earnestly yearning or strong affection; causes one to reach out, to stretch, or to go after.
  3. Lust – Desire so strong (out of balance) that it controls or causes one to act irrationally; torments and steals joy.
  4. **James 1:13-17** – Evil desire and deception.
- G. Fan the flame and keep yourself stirred up.
1. **II Timothy 1:6-7**
  2. **I Timothy 1:18** – Do warfare with prophecies.







# What Is The Pregnancy Like?

## I. A Time Of Expectancy And Waiting

- A. While waiting, you must expect – not despair.
- B. **Psalm 27:13** – I would have despaired had I not believed.
  - 1. Despair – **Without hope; desist or stop; to be utterly without a way, at a loss, without resource.**
  - 2. **Isaiah 30:18**
- C. **Psalm 37:7** – Rest in the Lord; fret not yourself!
  - 1. Don't worry about the delivery – **enjoy being pregnant.**
- D. **Psalm 39:7** – And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You.
  - 1. Boy? Girl? How much will it weigh? What will it look like?
  - 2. When you're pregnant, you may not always know just what God is doing and what exactly it is! TRUST!
- E. **Psalm 62:5** (KJV) – *My soul, wait thou only upon God . . .*
  - 1. **Hebrews 13:20-21** and **I Peter 5:10** – Mind, emotions, and will (the soul) must wait on God.
  - 2. Worry, upset, and self-will (rebellion, independence) must go.
- F. **Psalm 69:3** – I am weary with my crying while I wait for God.
  - 1. When pregnant – you may feel strange, sick, be emotional, etc.

G. **Psalm 130:5** – *I wait for the Lord, I expectantly wait, and in His word do I hope.*

1. When a young woman does not look pregnant, she hopes in the doctor's word.
2. **It may look as if nothing is happening.**

H. The silent years

1. **Hope – Desire with expectation.**
2. Jesus wasn't heard about from age twelve in the temple until age thirty.
3. On the shelf?
4. Nothing happening?
5. Purification of vision

## II. **Pregnancy Is A Time Of Preparation.**

A. I studied for years – I learned and I grew **before** the doors opened.

B. Jesus grew in wisdom and stature.

C. Charisma without character

1. Charisma (defined) – Great personal charm and magnetism; the ability to perform; divinely inspired gifts and abilities; being able to win the devotion of large numbers of people.
2. Character (defined) – Moral strength and integrity.
  - a. **A pregnant woman grows.**
  - b. Habit is character – usual way of behavior.

- c. Habits are formed by discipline or lack of discipline.
- D. Esther was prepared for many months before she was taken to the king and placed into her position.
  - 1. **Esther 2:4** – Position opened
  - 2. **Esther 2:8** – Separated
    - a. **A pregnant woman looks different; she is separated from others by pregnancy.**
    - b. **Acts 13:2** – Separate Saul and Barnabas.
    - c. **II Corinthians 6:16-17** – Come ye out and be separate.
  - 3. **Esther 2:12** – Purified and prepared in sweet spices

### III. A Time Of Change And Letting Go Of What Lies Behind

- A. Can no longer do anything you want to do.
  - 1. Friends may change.
  - 2. Habits may change.
- B. Focus changes.
  - 1. Not on self any longer
  - 2. Hobbies may need to become secondary or even let go of.
- C. Some want to have babies, but they don't want to change.
- D. Pregnancy and change can be uncomfortable.
  - 1. **Part of preparation**

- E. Letting go and reorganizing
  - 1. **Ecclesiastes 5:7** – In a multitude of dreams there is futility.
    - a. Learn to zero in.
    - b. **Philippians 1:10** – Prune and choose the more excellent.
- F. Tidy up your life and focus on the vision.
  - 1. Make room for the baby by getting rid of some other things.

#### **IV. The Practical Aspects Of Dreams – The Natural And The Spiritual Are Both Involved.**

- A. **Ecclesiastes 5:3** – A dream comes to pass with much business and painful effort.
- B. At this point many abort.
  - 1. Naturally speaking, a woman has an abortion:
    - a. **Out of FEAR**
    - b. **Not wanting responsibility or change**
    - c. **Not wanting the pain of delivery**
    - d. Not wanting the **expense**
    - e. Etc.!





# Abortions And Premature Births

## I. Satan, The Abortionist

- A. Abortion (defined) – A fatally premature expulsion of an embryo; termination of pregnancy.
  - 1. Satan wants to abort your seed.
- B. What we see in the natural is indicative of “spiritual abortions” going on.
  - 1. A dream thief
  - 2. Mark 4:14-19 – Steals your seed

## II. Faint Not.

- A. **I fainted when I was pregnant!**
  - 1. Faint (defined/Strong’s/Hebrew) – Cease, **fail**, forsake, idle, let go, be slack, be slothful, or give up.
  - 2. **You have not failed if you keep trying.**
- B. Satan tries to steal it, but you don’t have to give it up.
- C. Proverbs 24:10 – *If you faint in the day of adversity, your strength is small.*
  - 1. More strength is needed to give birth than to be pregnant.
- D. Spiritual smelling salts: Isaiah 40:29-31 – When feeling faint, wait on the Lord.
  - 1. **The presence of God**

- E. **Luke 18:1-9** – Men ought always to pray and not to faint.
1. **Faint** (defined/Vine's/Greek) – To lose heart, lack courage; be fainthearted; the effect of tribulation; to be weary; to fail.
  2. **Weary** – To wear out.

NOTE: **You have not failed until you quit. It is not over till it's over.**

- F. **II Corinthians 4:16** (KJV) – Paul had severe trials; and yet said, “. . . **we faint not**; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.”
1. **Ephesians 3:16** – Be strengthened in the inner man by the power of the Holy Spirit indwelling you and your personality.
- G. **Galatians 6:9** – Be not weary in well doing: for in due season **we shall reap, if we faint not**.
- H. **Hebrews 12:3** – Look at Jesus – consider what He went through, and it will help you not to faint.
- I. **Hebrews 12:5** – Faint not when ye are chastised by the Lord.
1. Correction causes many to faint.

### III. **Run With Patience The Appointed Course Of The Race (Hebrews 12:1).**

- A. **Romans 8:25** (KJV) – *But if we **hope** for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.*
1. **Hope** (defined) – **Desire with expectation.**
- B. **Patience** – A Fruit of the Spirit that grows only under trial. Long suffering, the ability to endure whatever comes with good temper. NOT WAITING, but how you behave while you're waiting.

1. **Who is who in the world today?**
- C. **Hebrews 6:12** – Inherit the promises through faith and patience.
- D. **Enjoy where you are while getting to where you are going to be.**
- E. Running without patience can cause abortions and premature births.

#### **IV. The Effect People Have On Our Dreams And Visions**

- A. **Genesis 37:8-9** – Joseph’s brothers hated him because he had a dream.
- B. Abundance of people telling you that you cannot
  1. **I Samuel 17:32-46**
  2. People will try to have you do it “their way” if they cannot stop you.
- C. **Numbers 13:25-31** – Ten (10) AGAINST two (2)
  1. Twenty percent of people tithe and do most of the work while eighty percent waste their lives being negative and critical of those succeeding.

#### **V. The Strongman Of Fear**

- A. Fear of failure, missing God, being wrong, hard work, rejection, success, etc.
- B. Fear of drowning keeps many in the boat.
- C. **Exodus 14:15** – Why cry to Me? Tell the people to go forward!

#### **VI. Premature Births**

- A. PRE – MATURE (existing prior to the assigned time)

- B. Teacup story
  - 1. We feel ready; but God says, “Not yet.”
- C. **Ecclesiastes 3:11** – Everything is beautiful in its time.
- D. Bear fruit in season.
  - 1. **Leviticus 26:3-4** – Walk in His statutes, keep His commands, and do them. **Then** I will give rain in due season, and the trees of the field shall bear fruit.
- E. **Mark 11:13-14, 20** – The fig tree cursed
  - 1. Appearing to bear fruit out of season caused it to come under a curse and wither away.
- F. Be mature, not premature.





# Labor And Delivery

Foundation Scriptures: **Matthew 20:20-22** – Jesus said to those who desired exalted positions: “**YOU DO NOT KNOW WHAT YOU ARE ASKING!**”

## I. From Conception To Delivery

A. Much occurs from conception to delivery!

B. ARE YOU ABLE?

### C. Travail

1. Definitions:

a. (Strong's/Hebrew) – Birth, bring forth, labor

b. (Webster's) – The labor of childbirth

c. (Vine's/Greek) – *Labor involving painful efforts*

2. **Jeremiah 30:6** (KJV) – . . . *wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?*

3. Every man and woman will travail (if not spiritual travail, then worldly travail).

4. **Ecclesiastes speaks of travail under the sun.**

5. **Ecclesiastes 4:8**

6. I would rather travail in God's kingdom plan than in the world.

7. **Ecclesiastes 5:3**

D. **Isaiah 53:11** – Jesus had travail of soul, but it brought satisfaction and it brought fruit.

1. **Luke 22:39-44**

2. As “The Seed,” He fell into the ground and died – the first born from the dead.

NOTE: Explain from The Seed’s viewpoint what it must be like to be taken from the package of seeds and planted in the ground.

3. **John 12:24** – Unless the seed falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone. But if it dies . . .

4. **Things we must die to:**

a. Reputation

b. Being noticed or included (**Matthew 6:1**)

c. Receiving credit for your efforts

d. How we look (perfection)

Fingernail situation at Azusa

e. Everything being **OUR** way

f. Things

g. The need to be right

h. Your own dreams and visions

1) Cannot be ambition or fleshly zeal

2) Cannot lean on natural talent.

- i. Die to what you are now – to become what you were meant to be.

E. **Isaiah 49:1-2** – I was hidden.

1. **Psalm 139:15-16** – Formed in secret prior to birth

F. **John 16:21** (KJV) – *A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow, because her hour is come: but as soon as she is delivered of the child, she remembereth no more the anguish, for joy that a man is born into the world.*

1. **Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.**

G. **Galatians 4:19** – Paul said, “Little children, I travail in birth until Christ be formed in you.”

1. **Each labor pain – hard things – push the baby through the birth canal.**

## II. Transition – The State Of Being Changed From One Form To Another, From One Place To Another

A. Labor – Beginning slowly and increasing brings you into transition.

**PUSH!**

B. The caterpillar – Butterfly metamorphosis

C. It is the hardest part of the labor, but also the signal that **very SOON** you will have your baby.

1. This fact encourages one to “bear down and **PUSH.**”

2. **PUSH!**

- D. **John 6** – Jesus brings the disciples to transition, and most of them backslid because it was “too hard.”

### III. Birth

- A. **II Kings 19:3** – . . . *This is a day of [extreme danger and] distress, of rebuke . . . for children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth.*

**P – U – S – H !**



