



Stop Standing In Hope

Have you ever had a hope, a dream or felt destined for something that seemed completely impossible? Did you ever think that even raising your thoughts to the idea bordered on clinical insanity? Welcome to my world. This, my friend is what's called normal for me.

So having been down this road more times than I care to admit, I realized I needed some perspective on the subject. Who am I kidding? I needed some serious help.

I've been reading a book by Steven Furtick called Sun Stand Still. It's based on the passage in Joshua 10 where he literally prayed for the sun to stand still so that the Israelite army could defeat the Amorites who, by the way, totally kicked their butts earlier.

Throughout the book Pastor Steven encourages the

reader to believe God for impossible things, gives guidelines to distinguish between self-centered dreams and our destiny in God, how to pray like a juggernaut and to push while you pray.

When I got to the chapter called Push While You Pray this is where the Lord really began to speak to me. There was a section of the chapter called Stop Standing in Hope. He quoted Hebrews 11:1 - "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." If you've been a Christian as long as I have, you've heard that one quoted to death. However Pastor Steven gives some personal stories of those that hoped and those that acted in faith.

Here are Pastor Steven's words from the chapter Push While You Pray that really challenged and convicted me the most. It first starts with this passage of scripture: After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise (Joshua 10: 9). Here is the revelation God gave him. "If you are going to pray for God to make the sun stand still, you better be ready to march all night."

Now these next lines went even deeper. "Audacious prayer must be tethered to practical obedience or else it's not faith. It's just wishful thinking and positive mental energy." "Most of the time, if you don't move, God won't move."

There is a section of the chapter called A Tale of Two Dreamers. One man wrote and recorded all this music which Pastor Steven said was really good but never did anything with it. The other guy really put his faith into action causing his music to go all over the world. Here was his answer to the dreamer that didn't put it out there.

"I know there is good music inside you. There are concepts and contributions flowing inside you that need to be released for the world to hear." "Audacious faith is the backbeat that gives your God-inspired intentions a groove worth moving to."

Now for those of you that know me, I can hear you saying something like this: "Uh, Jen we've been saying this to you for years! Are you just now getting a clue?" Well in my defense there has been a project I've been working on for the past five years that is not musical but has everything to do with helping me find my voice and its message. However you would be right in the fact that there are other things with my voice that God is reminding me to do as well.

Yet there is one thing that has been a desire of my heart for over twelve years. May I say that from what God has shown me recently regarding this desire is without doubt the most impossible thing...ever. Yet the Lord encouraged me to do all in my power to prepare for it. In other words, push while you pray and that goes for you too.