



## Imagination of the Heart

When I was growing up, I didn't have high-tech toys like most kids today. This encouraged me to use my imagination constantly, making the most of what I had, which brought me immense happiness. While playing with my toys, I was often lost in my own little world. Little did I know that my imagination would play a significant role in my relationship with God and my faith journey as an adult.

When one thinks of imagination, they often think of fantasy or something that doesn't exist. But did you know that all of us use our imagination on a daily basis? Every person thinks in pictures, whether in a positive or a negative way. I'm not here to invite you into an Alice in Wonderland fantasy or to lead you to use your imagination on things that aren't real, but to teach you to use your imagination to focus on spiritual realities in the Word that you can't see with your eyes. The imagination is one of the most important tools for receiving everything Christ provided through His finished work and for operating in faith.

### **Psalms 103:14, NKJV**

“For He knows our frame;  
He remembers that we are dust.”

The word *frame* is the Hebrew word *yaser*, which means “imagination.” Your imagination is like a frame that your entire being and life are built upon. You could say that who you are, what you have, and where you are today are products of your imagination.

Through the new birth, God has given us a new spirit and a new heart. We now have the ability to use our imagination, inspired by God, which I call the sense of the heart. The problem is that we don't use our imagination the way God intended because of unbelief or ignorance. Others are so consumed with focusing on the cares, responsibilities, pleasures, and comforts of this world that their imagination begins to function from their natural man instead of their spiritual man. As a result, who we really are, what we can do, and what we can have are affected, and we won't see the promises of God come to pass. Life will become defeated and self-centered, leading to a life of unfulfillment and dissatisfaction, and ultimately, we will be unable to experience life to the full as Jesus promised.

Many of us have an image inside of us that is contrary to the promises of God, yet we pray for different results. I guarantee you won't experience what you're trying to believe for because you cannot rise above your imagination. For example, if you're praying for prosperity but constantly

see yourself in lack, you won't see that promise come to pass. It's not due to unwillingness on God's part but rather unbelief on our part.

**Genesis 2:7, NKJV**

“And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.”

The word *formed* is the Hebrew word *yaser*, but here it means “to create.” In other words, what you imagine, you will eventually create. Once something is in the imagination, it will manifest outwardly. This is why vision boards work. It's a spiritual law put into practice that even the ungodly can access to accumulate material things. The distinction is that when believers in Christ operate in faith, they can manifest the provisions made by Christ through His resurrection, which are reserved only for the righteous by faith.

In the New Covenant, the constant use of your imagination to focus on the provisions made by Jesus through His resurrection is called hope.

**Hebrews 11:1, NLT**

“Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.”

Most of us try to operate in faith without hope. Hope involves two components: a positive expectation of God's goodness and a positive imagination. We might have a positive expectation of God's goodness but lack the positive imagination framed by God's Word. This is because we are trying to operate in faith without the imagination of the heart. Hope is the ability to see it with the heart. Faith can only give substance to that which we hope for. Faith gives substance to the promises and goodness of God (grace) for which you have hope in your heart, provided by the finished work of Christ. Without hope, faith has nothing to give substance to.

For example, there once was a man who spent most of his life in the mountains and decided one day to go nearest town to attend a service at a local church. When the church got hot, he saw one of the leaders approach a device and adjust it. About ten minutes later, he noticed the room had cooled down. Intrigued, he approached the leader to inquire about the device on the wall. The leader explained that it was a thermostat. The man asked where he could purchase one. He bought a thermostat at the local hardware store and installed it on the wall of his house. However, every time it got hot and he adjusted the thermostat, nothing happened. That's because he had only purchased the thermostat and not the entire cooling unit. This is similar to trying to operate in faith without hope. We try to operate in faith, and when it doesn't work, we wonder why it failed. The missing factor is the heart.

By spending time in God's Word, your heart is filled with a positive imagination of everything Christ provided for you through His finished work. It is not just about confessing the Word without the heart being involved. First, fill the imagination of your heart with God's Word, and then confession of faith will work for you.

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