

## The Dreamer

Genesis 37:1-11

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+37%3A1-11&version=NIV>

***“Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers,  
they hated him all the more” (vs.5)***

Joseph was a dreamer. More than that though, Joseph was a listener. He was excited to share his dreams with his family because he recognized his dreams as coming from the Holy One of Israel. Joseph was attentive to the fact that these were not ordinary dreams of the mind, but that they were dreams given by God to share some insight and wisdom with him. He paid attention, he listened and he never forgot the dreams that God had given to him.

Are you a dreamer? Are you a listener? Once as a youth in an adult Bible Study, I heard a woman of faith who I looked up to say that she didn't understand how people could say God talked to them because "God never talks to me." Before I even knew what I was saying, I quickly replied "Maybe God talks to you all the time but you're not listening." As the words left my mouth and I heard them I was terrified that I had disrespected my elder, but my terror was quickly interested by our pastor's laughter and exclamation "out of the mouths of babes." Whenever I am in a season of feeling like God is not talking to me, I always remember that mother of the church and am reminded that perhaps I am not listening. We get caught up like Joseph's family in the work of the day to day and fail to really listen for God. We go to God in prayer (communication), but spend the whole time talking and fail to listen. God grants each of us dreams and insights of the marvelous things HE is doing and wants to do through us, we just need to listen and cast out the fear that tells us such dreams are too big or beyond the reach of God. Chase God's dreams for you this week by listening for the Holy One of Israel.