

# IMAGINATION

WHAT

IF ?



# IMAGINATION: *WHAT IF* – *BE THE LION* - AGENTS OF CHANGE!

---

- Faith is an act of the imagination. And a healthy, vibrant imagination is crucial to the Christian life. Imagination is not the opposite of reality or the enemy of truth.
- Our problem is not an overactive imagination. The real threat is a lack of imagination, or an imagination stunted or misshaped by our experience.
- Some of us are stuck in “*if only*” living marked by regret, feelings of guilt, fear, and doubt. But God can turn your “*if only*” mindset into a “*what if*” attitude, where your faith looks forward to the future with holy confidence.
- The Bible calls us to adopt an active imagination that helps us look beyond our experience like those who modeled a fearless faith before us!





A person is seen from behind, standing on a dark, rocky outcrop. Their arms are raised high in the air, reaching towards a bright, hazy sky where the sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow. The person is wearing a dark jacket and jeans. The overall mood is one of hope and aspiration.

# IMAGINATION: *What If* – Imagination & the Future in Ezekiel.

---

1. **HOPE** → Spiritually, when we imaginatively what we know by faith will happen—that God’s promises will come to fruition, that Christ will never forsake us despite our troubles, that we will enjoy eternal life and, as Ezekiel sees, the resurrection of the dead—we exercise the spiritual virtue of hope (Ezekiel 37:3). Ezekiel’s vision of the dry bones and the graveyard is a treasure for our Christian imaginations as much as it was a treasure for the despairing exiles in Babylon.
2. **FEED YOUR IMAGINATION** → Remember “garbage in, garbage out.” What you put in is what you will get out. What you sow is what you will reap. 3 Suggestions:
  1. **CHOOSE** → Choose the images that you take in to your mind.
  2. **MEDITATE** → Meditate on God’s Word daily.
  3. **PRACTICE** → Practice displacing bad input with a better and stronger input. If you really want to put something off, then you will have to put something in its place.

# IMAGINATION: *What If – Nothing Can Separate Us!*

– Romans 8:31-39.

---

## IMAGINATION: *What If – No Ifs, Ands, or Buts about it!*

If you're looking for an excuse, you'll always find one. The same is true of opportunity. God-ordained opportunities are all around you, all the time. Of course, many of them come disguised as problems. Despite what the old adage says, opportunity doesn't knock. Sometimes you have to ask for it, seek it, and knock on it. But don't seek opportunity first and foremost. Seek God. If you do, opportunity will seek you.

1. **WHO IS IN YOUR CORNER?** → *"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us."* – A.W. Tozer. Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, in power and glory. He is our Advocate and is interceding for you. The Holy Spirit has your back and is in your corner (Isaiah 52:12). *"If you don't hold out on God, God won't hold out on you"* (Psalm 84:11). The Enemy in the garden whispered: *"perhaps God is holding out on you."* Quit begging like a pauper with no power, no plea. Christ himself is pleading your case! Christ is in your corner, on your side. That makes every *what if* possible.



# IMAGINATION: *What If – Nothing Can Separate Us!*

– Romans 8:31-39.

---

## IMAGINATION: *What If – No Ifs, Ands, or Buts about it!*

If you're looking for an excuse, you'll always find one. The same is true of opportunity. God-ordained opportunities are all around you, all the time. Of course, many of them come disguised as problems. Despite what the old adage says, opportunity doesn't knock. Sometimes you have to ask for it, seek it, and knock on it. But don't seek opportunity first and foremost. Seek God. If you do, opportunity will seek you.

2. **JESUS IN WITH YOU!** → Jesus can't take his eyes off you (Luke 22:61; John 21:12-19). The love of God, like the power of God, is measureless (Ephesians 3:14-19). In Romans 8, in the span of five verses, Paul asks 7 questions. If you're in a tough place, a place where it's hard to even ask, *what if*, take heart. The cross is God's way of saying, "Over my dead body." No matter what trouble, hardship, or persecution you face, this too shall pass. Jesus is WITH YOU and Jesus is FOR YOU! And no matter what has died at the hands of sin or Satan, Jesus can roll away the stone.







---

## ACTION: Journal This!

---

1. What if you are one decision away from a totally different life? What is your greatest challenge today — what circumstance or relationship is asking the most from you?
2. What if you approached today as if Jesus was really in your corner?
3. What if you fully surrendered your life to Christ, right here, right now?