

## Wait Before Fulfilling a Desire

Recently I was reminded of a principle I have used in the past to resolve whether or not a desire was right or not. I had lapsed from this method because I was more intent on listening to the Spirit for my instructions. Now that I am being released to fulfil the desires that are in my heart, I have to monitor how I do this so I don't deviate and move into the 'flesh' with my life. Here's the old technique:

**If the desire is righteous and if there is no check in your spirit, WAIT.**

Most soulish desires, unless they centre around passion, as well as desirous thoughts dropped in by the enemy, will disappear in a short while. Genuine desires and desires placed there by our Beloved will stay and are available for implementation or further assessment. This process weeds out inappropriate desires like buying a new car that is not required, and soulish desires such as buying a box of chocolates or that third helping of mashed potatoes.

Another reason for waiting is to ensure that we get the desire at the right time – when Father wants us to have it, not when we want it. This happened to me twice in the past.

1. In the 1980s I desired to buy a block of scrub land and build a house to live in with my wife and 4 children and to have a local spot to run my goats. Unfortunately, I began to suffer from skin cancer at an early age because my Gaelic skin couldn't handle the constant sun exposure. I had to leave the land and move to the town and work indoors – a disappointment for my house-building desire. About 5 years later, having abandoned my desire to build a house, our growing children put pressure on rooming space in our house in the town. A new desire came – I'll add a 9mx4m extension along the side of the house. I did this successfully with great joy. Looking back many years later I can see that my desire to build a house was satisfied by the construction of the great extension.
2. Also in the 1980s, I had a desire to go back to university. I enjoyed the last 3 years of my initial training so much that I felt I'd like to go back and do it again. Unfortunately, it would cost money, and, what would I study? A year or two later there was an offer made by the state's Department of Education to all schools to upgrade current teachers to become computer teachers, all expenses paid by the government. I was then involved in the new technology of desktop computers, a far cry from the building-sized computers I did my initial training on in 1968. I applied and became a fully-fledged IT teacher. This retraining became responsible for my movements around the nation that eventually caused me to align with the Kingdom. Looking back, I can see that the desire that dropped into my heart was realised even though I didn't pursue it at the first instance. It came from the right source, obviously.

Sometimes Father wants us to let go of a desire so he can do what he needs to do. Here's an example:<sup>1</sup>

*If you're coming up from the south, the only way to get into the Lamar Valley in northeast Yellowstone is over Dunraven Pass. It's a narrow, winding road over the flanks of Mount Washburn and in recent years badly in need of repair. Still, I had come so far for this. It was three months after Brent's death, and I had made a sort of pilgrimage to Yellowstone. The last great adventure we shared together was here, fly-fishing among the wolves and bears in the Lamar Valley.*

*I had returned under the auspices of taking my family on vacation, but I sensed there was a deeper reason. Unbeknownst to them, I was on a pilgrimage, drawn here for a purpose only partially known to me. Down the desolate highways of Wyoming, across the Absarokas, up the Snake River from Jackson Hole, I had followed some inner call. There was much to see along the way, and many side trails explored with my family. But finally, we came to my real goal—the road over Dunraven Pass. It was closed.*

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<sup>1</sup> – Peter shared this at our Kingdom Community meeting on the same day I planned talking on this topic

*The orange-and-white barriers stood there like a prophetic beast out of a nightmare. ROAD CLOSED. None shall pass. It seems the Park Service crews had decided—that morning, with no prior warning—to close the road for repairs for the rest of the season. My journey would end here. I sat at the intersection staring dumbly at the barriers, the engine idling, cars piling up behind me. God began to speak to my sinking heart: Your journey lies along another path. You’ve got to let all that go now. I knew there was no arguing. I didn’t even try to put up a fight. I’ve been known to plow through his barriers in the past, but not now. Remember checkmate? My grip has loosened in recent years, and I knew this was a call to loosen it even more.*

*One thing I have come to embrace is this: we have to let it go. The more comfortable we are with mystery in our journey, the more rest we will know along the way.*<sup>2</sup>

Sometimes it's better to even postpone the desire's fulfilment until the Millennial Reign where it will be more glorious than to have it now. Here's an example:<sup>3</sup>

*Bethann<sup>4</sup> told me this beautiful story after we both attended a conference in Denver: “After nine days of being with twelve hundred people, I wanted to breathe, to be alone, and to be free.” So she went antique shopping downtown. The first shop she stepped into was very upscale. “It felt more like a museum or even cathedral than a shop. I felt out of place. Obviously, I couldn’t buy anything here. I clutched my purse closely to make sure that I didn’t knock anything over.” Enormous English armoires<sup>5</sup>, French marble fireplaces, an \$18,000 Roman bathtub. Reaching the back of the store, Bethann turned into a narrow passage between pieces and was captivated by a stained glass window. “It must have come from a chalet in France. It was propped up against a window and the light that came through it seemed somehow purified; the shades of soft yellow and blue and rose flowing from an urn of profuse flowers with ribbons elegantly fluttering away. I don’t know how long I stood there with my mouth open. It made my heart swell and fill and ache at the same time.” Her mind began to race: How could she possess it for her own? But at \$8,000, the window was beyond hoping for. “Resignation, hopelessness, and anger followed. Then out of nowhere, I rebounded. I will have it in my home—in heaven. Some guy making six figures may be able to have it for a few years, but I’ll have it forever.” It was the first time, she told me, that she saw her desires filled in the coming kingdom. “I’ve got the better end of the deal”, she said to herself and walked out.*<sup>6</sup>

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2 – John Eldridge (2000) “Desire: The Journey we must Take to Find the Life God Offers” Thomas Nelson [kindle] p:99-100

3 – Peter also shared this at our Kingdom Community meeting

4 – Bethann Parker: A close friend of John Eldredge

5 – A large wardrobe originally used to store weapons

6 – John Eldredge (2000) “Desire: The Journey we must Take to Find the Life God Offers” Thomas Nelson [kindle] p:102-103