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# REN310 Wisdom Through Dream Interpretation

*3 credits*

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## Course Description

Psalms declares that God counsels us at night through our dreams (Ps. 16:7). Dreams are also a form of meditation that can move scriptural truth from our heads to our hearts. Every one of us can learn to hear from God during the two hours of dream life we have each night. It just takes a little training and a lot of practice. In this course, we will examine all 50 dreams of the Bible, seeing how God interprets them and learning how God is speaking to you through your dreams (Num. 12:6; Acts 2:17).

Prerequisite: REN103 Communion with God

## Course Texts

*Hearing God Through Your Dreams* textbook by Mark Virkler and Charity Kayembe

*Hear God Through Your Dreams* workbook by Mark and Patti Virkler

*Hearing God Through Your Dreams* audio or video by Charity Kayembe and Mark Virkler

*Hear God Through Your Dreams* audio or video by Mark Virkler

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## Course Objectives:

### Academic

- You will quote the following verses:
  - ✓ Psalm 127:2b NAS

- ✓ Psalm 16:7 NIV
  - ✓ Numbers 12:6 NIV
  - ✓ Genesis 40:8
  - ✓ Psalm 119:148
  - ✓ Job 33:14-18, 29, 30 NASU
  - ✓ Song of Solomon 5:2 NIV
- You will discuss the physiology of dreams.
  - Discuss the quantum physics principles of superposition and the observer effect, and what they have to do with Christian living.
  - Discuss the place of vision in bridging the gap between the physical and spiritual realms.
  - You will discuss seven reasons why we should listen to our dreams
  - You will discuss the reasons why someone may not remember their dreams and steps they can take to begin remembering them more frequently and accurately.
  - You will describe the language of the dream and the sources of this language.
  - You will discuss the meaning and importance of the setting of a dream.
  - You will discuss the differences between subjective and objective dreams, how you can tell the difference, and how they should each be interpreted.
  - You will discuss repeated dreams and what to do about them.
  - You will discover the meaning of the symbols seen in your dreams.
  - You will discuss the usual symbolic meaning of animals in one's dreams.
  - You will discuss the probable meanings of people who appear in dreams.
  - You will discuss the probable meanings of specific clothing (e.g. uniforms) and nakedness in dreams.
  - You will discuss the usual meanings of pregnancy in birth in

dreams

- You will discuss the usual meanings of death in a dream.
- You will discuss the possible sources and usual meanings of sexual dreams.
- You will state at least seven principles of dream interpretation.
- You will define each of the following terms and discuss how they relate to dream interpretation:
  - ✓ Dream
  - ✓ Vision
  - ✓ Metaphor
  - ✓ Simile
  - ✓ Metonymy
  - ✓ Idiom
  - ✓ Homonym
  - ✓ Setting

### **Attitudinal**

- You will appreciate the significance the Bible places on dreams in the communication of God to man.
- You will recognize the role of symbols in the dream.
- You will honor the voice of God to you through your dreams.

### **Behavioral**

- You will begin keeping a personal Dream Journal.
- You will listen to your dreams and seek to understand them, listening to the Lord for the full interpretation.
- You will act in response to the message of your dreams.

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## Course Requirements:

1. Read the entire textbook *Hearing God Through Your Dreams* by Mark Virkler and Charity Kayembe as assigned, taking notes and highlighting as you read. Answer the related discussion questions and exercises found here in your syllabus or Student Notebook. These answers will be submitted to your instructor.
2. Listen to or watch the entire series *Hearing God Through Your Dreams* by Charity Kayembe and Mark Virkler as assigned, taking notes as you listen.
3. Listen to or watch the entire series *Hear God Through Your Dreams* by Mark Virkler as assigned. Follow along in the *Hear God Through Your Dreams* **workbook**, taking notes as you listen.
4. Complete the **workbook** *Hear God Through Your Dreams* by Virklers as assigned.
  - a. There are additional related questions and exercises here in your Syllabus or Student Notebook for the teaching in Part I. Answer each of these questions in a format that can easily be submitted to your instructor.
  - b. Each of the studies in the Biblical Research Concerning Dreams and Visions section should be completed in the following manner:
    - i. First, slowly and carefully read the entire Bible passage indicated.
    - ii. Then go to the questions in the text, referring to the stated verses and writing the correct response.
    - iii. Next, close your eyes and ask the Lord to reveal to you whatever He wants you to learn from the passage. Open the eyes of your heart to see the story you have just read. Expect God to show you or tell you something important. When you sense that the Lord is finished with His instruction, open your physical eyes and record what you saw and heard in the final section of the Bible study. (Note: You are not expected to discover something new in each and every one. However, you are expected to be open to the Spirit's teaching and regularly be learning new insights.)

- iv. Finally, turn to the back of the book beginning on page 57 and read what the Virklers discovered in the passage. If they saw something you didn't or if they interpreted it differently, take the time to explore further until you sense God has shown you all He is going to from this passage at this time.

NOTE: These answers will be submitted to your instructor for grading. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you type your answers on your computer.

5. Keep a journal in which you record your dreams and their interpretations. Also make note of any new insights or applications of the teaching on Christian dream interpretation that you receive. You should be recording at least two dreams per week and more if you can.
6. Submit a paper discussing what you have learned about yourself and the way God speaks to you through your dreams. Use specific references from your dream journal. This paper should be a minimum of four typewritten pages, maximum 12-point font, and is due in the final lesson.
7. Earn at least a "B" on Test One and the Final Exam.

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## Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, “C” or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least “B” (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a “B”.

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, we are training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- “D”
  - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
  - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- “C”
  - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
  - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- “B”
  - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
  - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- “A”
  - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
  - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

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# Lesson One

**Reminder: Save your answers into a digital document** to be emailed to your instructor. Use Microsoft Word, Google Docs, any other word processor or even just save it as an email draft or in the Notes application of your mobile device. *Handwritten work will be not be accepted* without prior approval from your instructor.

## **Assignment to be completed:**

**NOTICE that the titles of the two books and two audio/video series are nearly identical! Look closely at your assignment** to be sure you are reading, watching and listening to the right material for each lesson.

Listen to or watch Session 1 of the *Hearing God Through Your Dreams* teaching by Charity Kayembe.

Read the Forewords, Preface, Introduction and Chapter 1 of the **text-book** *Hearing God Through Your Dreams* by Virkler and Kayembe. Take notes on anything the Lord especially brings to your attention.

Read pages 15-20 of the *Hear God Through Your Dreams* **workbook**.

Do biblical studies 1 - 4 on pages 21 - 22 of *Hear God Through Your Dreams*. These biblical studies are essential to providing you with a solid scriptural foundation for listening to your dreams. Take the time to do them well. **BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE FORMAT GIVEN IN COURSE REQUIREMENT #4 ABOVE.**

Complete all the exercises and application questions found here in your Student Notebook.

Memorize Psalm 127:2b NAS (He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.)

Complete and correct Self-Test.

Begin keeping a journal in which you record your dreams and the interpretation you receive from God. Also make note of any new insights or applications of the teaching on Christian dream interpretation that you receive.

## **Subject to be explored:**

- Bridges to the Supernatural: How Dreams Connect Us to God

## **Related objectives:**

- You will quote Psalm 127:2b NAS.
- You will begin to understand the physiology of dreams.
- You will discuss the quantum physics principles of superposition and the observer effect, and what they have to do with Christian living.
- You will appreciate the volume of the Scriptures that are devoted to dreams, visions and their effect in the physical world.
- You will recognize the place of vision in bridging the gap between the physical and spiritual realms.

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# **Exercises**

1. In your own words, present a biblical case for taking our dreams seriously enough to try to understand them.
2. As best you can, explain how we as Christians demonstrate the quantum principle of superposition.
3. a) State the observer effect of quantum physics.  
b) What does the observer effect have to do with your spiritual life?
4. In your own words, discuss the place of vision in bridging the gap between the physical and spiritual realms.
5. What principles for learning can you draw from the story of “The Student, the Fish and Agassiz” (HGTYD WB p. 16-18)?
6. a) State the seven positive steps of biblical meditation.  
b) Discuss how these steps apply to Christian dream interpretation.

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# Self-Test

**NOTE:** *These Self-Tests are designed to clarify and reinforce the lesson objectives. They may be done with open book, if necessary.*

1. Dreaming occurs during \_\_\_\_\_ level sleep.
2. Dreaming can be observed as \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The fact that the Bible says that we are currently seated in heavenly places is an example of the quantum principle of:
  - Transubstantiation
  - Superposition
  - The observer effect
  - String theory
4. What quantum scientists call “observing,” the Bible calls:
  - Watching
  - Praying
  - Witnessing
  - Meditating
5. The quantum principle of the Observer Effect states that by looking at something, we \_\_\_\_\_ it.
6. When you total up all the dreams, visions, stories about them, and actions resulting from them, you find that approximately \_\_\_\_\_ of the Bible is supernatural visionary encounter.
7. When we witness or observe what is happening in the spiritual world through a \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_, we play a part in creating in our world what we see in His.
8. Complete Psalm 127:2. He gives to His \_\_\_\_\_ even in his \_\_\_\_\_.

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# Answers to Self-Test

If you did not know any of the answers to these questions, refer to the pages indicated in parentheses. “tb” refers to *Hearing God Through Your Dreams* by Virkler and Kayembe.

“wb” refers to *Hear God Through Your Dreams* by the Virklers.

1. Alpha (tb p. 37,38)
2. REM or rapid eye movement (tb p. 37,38)
3. superposition (tb p. 40)
4. witnessing (tb p. 41-48)
5. change (tb p. 41-48)
6. one-third (tb p. 36)
7. dream, vision (either order) (tb p. 41-48)
8. Psalm 127:2. He gives to His beloved even in his sleep.