

“Sun Stand Still”

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Kindle Notes: Dave Kraft

If you're not daring to believe God for the impossible, you're sleeping through some of the best parts of your Christian life. I want to know what it means to live life and do ministry at the speed of God. What God has done among us is so big that there's nobody to blame but him. If the dream in your heart isn't biblically based, focused on Jesus, affirmed by the key people in your life, and tethered to your passions, gifts, and life experiences, chances are, you're way off base. Audacious faith starts with sanctified naiveté. There's an unquestioning optimism that comes as standard equipment when you're young. Honestly, I think it's a gift from God. Time can talk you out of your dreams. Routine can weaken your propensity toward audacity. Sun Stand Still is a metaphor for the seemingly impossible things God wants to do in and through your life.

A Sun Stand Still prayer applies audacious faith to a clearly defined need or goal that requires God's supernatural involvement. Extraordinary moves of God begin with ordinary acts of obedience. You may be living under the illusion that when God ignites great things in your life, he'll announce it with a big bang. He might. It's more likely that he won't. So stop waiting around for the big bang. Pay attention to the subtle clues and the still, small voice. God lives in that place too. George is completely available to Jesus and he has increased his spiritual availability through unconditional obedience. The day you gave your life to Christ, you signed a full-time ministry employee agreement. No matter who pays your salary, you're a full-time employee of the kingdom of God. The people in my church aren't just season ticket holders. They don't fill the seats to watch my exegetical dunking skills. I refuse to limit our impact by becoming a one-man show. And when the preacher is a ball hog, it robs others of the opportunity to express their gifts and give their service as an act of worship. Every single person I've described is a connector to the current of the power of Christ.

Your Sun Stand Still assignment might not be meteoric. It might be mundane. But when you give all you've got for the cause of the One who gave it all to you in the first place, the effects of your investment will literally reach the heavens. Is there something you're good at that God could transform into greatness if you energized your efforts and focused your abilities for God's glory? Go for it. You're probably standing next to a burning bush right where you live and work. If you'll do the believing, he'll do the achieving. Maybe your greatest fear is the negative opinions of others. The perspective of faith won't totally silence that fear. It will just gradually make what God says to you more important than what others think about you. You've got to be careful. Otherwise you'll mistake arrogance for audacity. A healthy dose of fear can bring you to a place of dependence on Jesus. That's always a good thing. Confidence without humility is arrogance. Humility without confidence is weakness. Confidence and humility are both biblical. And they're equally essential for a life of true faith. Audacious faith does not eliminate doubt and fear. It eclipses their power one decision at a time. It's not wrong to feel fear. It is wrong

to let that fear have the last word in your life. Salvation is free. Obedience can be very costly. The scope and impact of your vision will be determined by who you believe God is—and whether you have the courage to respond accordingly. If there is no limit to what God can do, then there is also no limit to what we can dream or pray or accomplish in his service. Dream God-worthy dreams. Pray faith-fueled prayers. Live a life that can be explained only by the existence of a God who is infinitely great. You can't believe for impossible things from a God you find it impossible to believe in. If you want to get really good at walking in audacious faith, you have to get really good at preaching God's Word to yourself. The two characters that make up the Chinese word for crisis are danger and opportunity. The tragedy of our time is that we have taken what was meant to be ordinary and made it exceptional. Elijah and Joshua had the audacity to pray prayers that lived up to God's character, God's heart, God's resources, God's will, and God's abilities. Hope is a desire. Faith is a demonstration. Hope wants it to happen. Faith causes it to happen and acts as if it's already done. Between the promise and the payoff there's always a process.

FIVE TRUTHS ABOUT SUN STAND STILL PRAYERS

Truth 1: A Sun Stand Still Prayer Is Audacious

Truth 2: A Sun Stand Still Prayer Is Specific

If your Sun Stand Still prayer is too vague, you won't know what corresponding actions to take to bring your faith to life.

Truth 3: A Sun Stand Still Prayer Doesn't Have to Be Permanent

Truth 4: A Sun Stand Still Prayer May Be Too Personal to Share with Others

Truth 5: A Sun Stand Still Prayer Thrives with a Team

FIVE STEPS TO A SUN STAND STILL PRAYER

Step 1: Activate Your Audacious Faith

Step 2: Approach God with Boldness

Step 3: Ask specifically for What Is Humanly Impossible

Step 4: Advance Toward the Answer

Step 5: Give God All the Glory