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Third Grade Dreams

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbXjgwDHNpQ>



I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

ISAIAH 41:10

By third grade, children are expected to develop basic writing, editing, and revising skills. They also begin focusing more on reading comprehension and understanding what they read.

One way teachers inspire their students is by reading *The Uncorker of Ocean Bottles* by Michelle Cuevas. This charming story encourages children to think about their dreams, write them down, roll them up, and place them in a bottle to be opened at a future time. Sadly, as we all know, dreams don't always become reality.

One commonly cited statistic claims that 96% of adults don't work in the profession they dreamed of as children, while only 4% achieve their childhood dream job.

But does this mean we should stop dreaming?

Christian recording artist Francesca Battistelli reminds us of an important truth through her song, "God Is Good." She sings about life's joys and tears, reminding us that there is beauty in it all. We may have to look a little harder to find it, but God remains good through every season.

When life overwhelms us and we need strength to keep going, Isaiah 41:10 offers this reassuring promise: "I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."

Fear can overtake us.

Disappointment can discourage us.

And sometimes, the dreams we once held so tightly take a different direction than we expected. Yet our God is all-powerful, and He promises to strengthen and uphold us.

A third grader's dream might be to become a better reader. As adults, our dreams often become more complex. We long for healthier relationships, renewed hope, greater peace, or the strength to face another day. We want to live better, love better, and become the people God created us to be.

Perhaps the dreams we need most aren't about what we will accomplish, but about who we are becoming.

God may not fulfill every dream exactly as we imagined it, but we can trust Him to walk beside us, strengthen us, and guide our steps. Even when our plans change, His goodness remains.

Closing Thought

What dream have you tucked away in the bottle of your heart? Perhaps it's time to uncork it, bring it before God, and ask Him to show you what is possible with His strength and guidance.

It's never too late to dream again when we place our hope in the One who holds our future.

Closing Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are the Creator of our dreams and the source of our strength. Help us release the fears and disappointments that keep us from moving forward. Guide our hearts, renew our hope, and show us how to use each day to become more like You.

Even when our dreams take an unexpected turn, remind us of Your goodness and help us trust Your plan. May the lives we live bring honor and glory to You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Karen Good

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