Remember “The Little Engine that Could?” Presented with the task of carrying toys up a steep hill, many other larger and shinier train engines refused the challenge as too daunting, but the little engine responded with the mantra: “I think I can, I think I can!” And, as the story goes, that little engine strived all the way up the steep hill, chanting over and over, “I think I can, I think I can,” until it finally pressed through over the hill to the rescue. This beautiful story of hope and perseverance has brought encouragement to children since the late 1800s. Even still, “The Little Engine that Could” cannot hold a candle to what you and I have been given. While the train had nothing beyond positive thinking and sheer effort, we have been given the Spirit of Almighty God. The same power that rose Jesus from the dead now resides in us (see Ephesians 1:16-22), and he has come to give us power and ability through him to do everything he desires for us. Consider for a moment that no limitation or hindrance is powerful enough to deter you from reaching the destination God planned for you! The only limits that God faces are the imaginary ones we put on him. He can take you anywhere. And unlike the engine, you aren’t called to blaze your trail through own striving. Instead, through intimacy with God and obedience to his voice, he becomes the engine that moves you. All you have to do is travel with him, and you will reach every station on your life’s itinerary. Your potential is way better than “I think I can.” It’s a limitless spring from a limitless God if we’d simply let go of our limitations of what we think he can accomplish through our little engine!

“Everything is possible for one who believes” Mark 9:23b – Emphasis added.

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me” Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) – Emphasis added.

“You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them (spirits that are not from God), because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world” 1 John 4:4 – Emphasis added.

**QUESTIONS FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION:**

1. Often, we allow excuses and perceived limitations to squash our dreams and keep us from truly considering what we can do for God. Repent for every limitation you’ve placed upon God and yourself and ask him to stir his dreams in you again.

2. Ask the Holy Spirit if there are any dreams you’ve placed on the back burner or given up on because they seemed too daunting. What are they? Write them down.

**PRAYER:**

Thank you, Lord, for the strength to do everything that you’ve called me to do. Thank you for the dreams you have
for me and the plans you’ve knit into my being. Help me to discern between my desires and yours and to embrace the dreams you have for me. Help me understand the timing of your dreams, Father, so I walk right in step with you. I break the lies that I cannot accomplish what you have called me to do. I instead choose to believe that I can do all things you have for me, and I will not limit you or your plan for my life. Take this life and let it shine!

LISTENING TIME:

Stop for a few minutes and ask the Lord what he wants to say to you. He might bring to mind a picture, a word, a song, an encouragement, a Scripture or an answer to a burden in your heart. Don’t rush or feel pressure to figure out the meaning of your impressions. Just invite him to speak and draw or write down what you sense. Afterward, ask God to help you discern and understand what he is saying to you. You might want to ask other trusted friends in the Kingdom for their input as well.

USE THE FOLLOWING SPACE TO RECORD WHAT GOD IS SAYING

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TOOLS FOR FAMILY DEVOTIONS:
Ask, “If you could do anything — and weren’t afraid of failing — what would you do?” “What stirs you about that dream? Does it tell you anything about God’s dream for your life?” Pray for one another to not place limitations on God’s plans for your lives, and encourage one another in the dreams of your hearts!

TOOLS FOR PRAYING FOR OTHERS:
Read James 5:13-18. Ask the Holy Spirit to bring someone to your mind that has a need that seems impossible. Pray in faith for God to move.