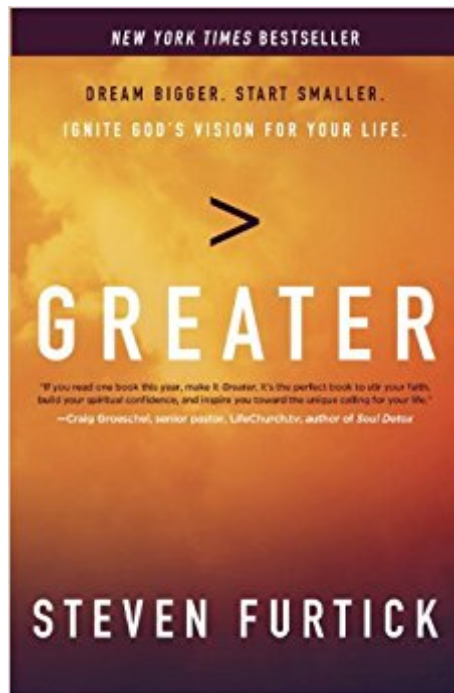




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# Greater: Dream Bigger. Start Smaller. Ignite God's Vision For Your Life.



## Synopsis

Most of us aren't in danger of ruining our lives. We're in danger of wasting them. Are you unsatisfied with the kind of Christian life you've settled for? If you are tired of cul-de-sac Christianity or self-help pseudo solutions, today is the day God's greater plan for your life begins in full force: Greater than the labels you were given when you were young. Greater than the cynicism that settles in as you get older. Greater than the dreams you've dreamed for yourself. Greater than even the greatest moment you've had thus far. In *Greater*, Pastor Steven Furtick draws on the biblical story of Elisha to give you the confidence to know that nothing is impossible with God, the clarity to see the next step He's calling you to take, and the courage to do anything He tells you to do.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Praise for *Greater* "Writes Steven Furtick, 'Good enough leaves you stuck in stagnation. Grasping for greatness leads to endless frustration. But greater is a third way.' My advice? Don't waste another second to embrace the third way. In *Greater*, Steven shows you that God's vision for your life is ready to be ignited. Go ahead—strike the match!" —Jentezen Franklin, senior pastor of Free Chapel, Gainesville, GA, and New York Times best-selling author of *Fasting* "If you ever felt like you were meant for more yet have settled for less in life, then Steven Furtick's new book, *Greater*, is for you! Its proven biblical insights and practical applications will put you on your path to the greater life." —Kerry Shook, senior pastor of Woodlands Church,

Houston, TX, and coauthor of the New York Times best-selling *One Month to Live* and the national bestseller *Love at Last Sight*—Most people crave more out of life and sense there is a greater reason for our existence. Pastor Steven's new book, *Greater*, is the perfect book to stir your faith, build your spiritual confidence, and inspire you toward the unique calling for your life. If you read only one book this year, make it *Greater*.

• "Craig Groeschel, senior pastor of LifeChurch.tv, Oklahoma City, OK, and author of *Soul Detox* and *Dare to Drop the Pose*—My friend Steven Furtick has an insatiable passion for the church to discover the fullness of life in Christ. In *Sun Stand Still*, Steven dared us to pray audacious prayers and believe God for the impossible. Now in *Greater*, he walks us through what it looks like to live out an audacious life—a life marked by nothing less than greatness God's way!"

• "John Bevere, best-selling author of *Relentless* and *The Bait of Satan*—Steven Furtick boldly pursues God with audacious faith like no one else I know. He is unapologetic about allowing God to accomplish greater things through him. This book will inspire you to do the same. To reach for greater. To believe for greater. To be greater."

• "Stovall Weems, lead pastor of Celebration Church, Jacksonville, FL—In every generation God empowers a few great leaders to speak his truth with boldness. Steven Furtick is one of those voices in our generation. In his new book *Greater*, you will learn how to embrace God's present plan for your greater calling and purpose."

• "Christine Caine, director of Equip and Empower and founder of the A21 Campaign—Greater is about walking in God's higher purpose for your life. Whether that's as a teacher, preacher, leader, parent, musician, artist, engineer, or entrepreneur, Steven Furtick will show you how to let go of your fears and embrace your greater purpose in God."

• "Israel Houghton, Grammy Award-winning recording artist and worship leader of Lakewood Church, Houston, TX—People today are bored, depressed, and confused because they have settled for 'good enough.' But 'good enough' is keeping us from living the life that God has called us to. In *Greater*, Steven Furtick embarks on a brilliant journey of transformation that every follower of Christ needs to take. This book delivers!"

• "Perry Noble, senior pastor of NewSpring Church, Anderson, SC, and blogger on leadership, vision, and creativity—Pastor Steven's powerful yet vulnerable teaching grabbed my heart, equipped my mind, and stirred my soul like no other book I've ever read. This is one I will return to again and again. For anyone who has ever dared to dream but doesn't know how to turn their dreams into reality, *Greater* is a must-read."

• "Lysa TerKeurst, New York Times best-selling author of *Made to Crave* and president of Proverbs 31 Ministries—Some of us wear ourselves out trying to achieve 'greatness.' Others of us miss our calling and settle for 'good enough.' In *Greater*, Steven Furtick shows us the surefooted path to the Greater life."

• "Mark Batterson, lead pastor of

National Community Church, Washington, DC, and author of *Primal* and *In a Pit with a Lion on a Snowy Day* • Steven Furtick is living exactly what he's written about in this book • "start small, dream big, and see what God will do! Our church has been massively blessed by the example of Pastor Steven, his family, and Elevation Church. Take it from the best. Don't underestimate what God can do with your small start. Get this book and be encouraged!" • "Dino Rizzo, lead pastor of Healing Place Church, Baton Rouge, LA, and author of *Servolution* • Steven Furtick understands spiritual vision like few people I know. If you desire a life beyond your imagination, read this book! Greater will take you to a whole new level and invite you to experience the power of God every day." • "Jack Graham, senior pastor of Prestonwood Baptist Church, Dallas, TX, and author of *Powering Up* • The distance between desire and doing is often intimidating because we don't know where to begin. But in *Greater*, Steven Furtick shows that God's "greater" for our lives is as far away as our first step of obedience." • "Ed Young, senior pastor of Fellowship Church, Dallas, TX, and author of *Outrageous, Contagious Joy* • Steven Furtick is in my head again with *Greater*. He's challenging me to be greater" and the good news is that all I have to do is think big and start small." • "Tim Sanders, author of *Today We Are Rich* and CEO of Net Minds • "My friend Steven Furtick calls us to a faith-filled life of trusting and believing God for greater lives than the ones we are living now. It's not about us, though. It's about God's greater glory in and through our lives. If you are ready for a life-altering experience with Jesus Christ, pick up a copy of *Greater*." • "James MacDonald, senior pastor of Harvest Bible Chapel, Chicago, IL, and author of *Always True* and *10 Choices*

Steven Furtick, author of the best-selling *Sun Stand Still*, is founder and lead pastor of Elevation Church, a multi-site church based in Charlotte, North Carolina. He holds a master of divinity degree from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Holly, have three children, Elijah, Graham, and Abbey.

This book *Greater*, is just what I needed to start my New Year off right. I have to be honest and say that Steven Furtick has never been a favorite speaker or author of mine, although I have heard him in person and really was impressed, encouraged, and challenged by his message. But this book, about the Old Testament Prophet Elijah passing his mantle of ministry on to Elisha. Although Elijah had done great things, Elisha asked for a double portion of Elijah's anointing and in the end he did even greater things. And the great thing is, you and I have been passed the mantle of Jesus and we can and will do even greater things than He did. These are Jesus words, not mine. If you need

some fuel for your journey, this is a great book to start with this year.

It's probably a good thing to read a "personal motivation" book like this now and again, but I can't help but feel that people like Steven Furtick (who is most definitely a "purpose driven" sort of guy) don't understand that most people probably don't relate to the extraordinary examples of purpose-driven-ness found in the Bible (such as Elisha, who forms the key case-history for Furtick in this book). It is occasionally consoling to think that every Bible verse is a direct promise to everyone, and every example is a dead-on example for everyone, but I'm afraid I don't quite believe that. This doesn't stop me from trying harder, and, as I say, books like this probably do me more good than harm. But if my life doesn't eventually reflect a bigger dream, or more obvious purpose, will this book have simply added to my guilt? Tough question.

In fairness I probably should start by saying I am a huge fan of Steven Furtick. So my attempt to give a fair book review might be skewed a little, I really think Pastor Steven is a brilliant man of God. The nice thing about Greater is it complements many of the themes and ideas that were communicated in Sun Stand Still. Greater is less about self-help and more about a perspective shift to see God's ability to work powerfully in your life. I have a bias to these books because I wrote on a similar topic, so it is always exciting to see another Pastor with the same passion. The book follows the story of Elisha, he's the guy after Elijah, and follows a call to greater things in his life. Pastor Steven's great quality in writing is his ability to clearly communicate deep insights, simply. He tables the story of Elisha to launch into a conversation about burning plows to remove exit strategies and boldly walk towards a greater calling. He outlines the roadblocks, shares personal struggles and intermingles stories of people who have walked towards greater. Dealing with the negatives and leveraging the Shunammite woman speaks to dealing with suffering as a sign-post on the path to Greater. It is a welcomed encouragement and reminder that greater is a harder path than mundane and ordinary and the presence of God there as a comforter through hard times is always welcome. Greater is better than Great, not because Great is bad, because greater is a perspective aligned with God. Greater is a product of submission and humility to see God's perspective and ability in our lives. Pastor Steven's books are rich with excellent sermon analogies which double as great conversation points. He is witty insights and clearly communicates simple truths boldly about God. I read the book in a day, it is also littered with highlights that I will use in future messages. This certainly isn't an academic text, but it is an excellent read for a person who is searching for the next step in a life bookended by Christ. Our call is to greater things, not greatness. A well framed

conversation that removes ego and celebrity and places God at the center.

This book was such a shot of nitrous to any follower of Jesus' journey of becoming wholehearted. I love how Furtick define "greatness" in such an accessible way. The roadmap of Elisha's life as a backdrop brings the Bible to life in new ways. Furtick's candor about his own life & struggles make you feel instantly understood and encouraged, while his audacious faith ignites fresh hope and possibility in you. "Burn The Plow" is a fantastic stand-alone read if you're looking for a sample to start with -- but the whole book is definitely worth your time!

People like to crush dreams. Often times it's those closest to us that are our biggest critics. God has a great plan for our lives and Pastor Furtick does an amazing job in this book focusing on biblical figures who accomplished miracles when God was allowed to work in their lives. This book truly ignites a fire inside you to trust God with all things in your life and to continue to dream and dream big!

By the time one reaches my age the tendency is start "slowing down" looking toward retirement, time with grand kids and trying to catch big trout with a small fly. But I don't want to stop. I believe that that are still significant things that I am called to. Furtick reminds me that I haven't lived 40 years of adult life to opt out of doing greater things. I needed to be reminded that in God's economy greater is always an option for me. It has challenged me to actively seek what God's vision is for me for this stage of my life. Get the book, allow yourself the freedom to "dream dreams" again.

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