

**Hope Presbyterian Church  
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group**



**April 21, 2024**

**“Possibility” - #3 in the series God on Film**

**Texts (NIV):** Proverbs 16:3-4, I Thessalonians 5:11.

1. What stood out to you about the message?
  
2. The 2006 film *The Pursuit of Happyness* is based on a year in the life of Chris Gardner (Will Smith), who placed his hope in the American dream and became homeless after losing his job and his wife, who left him to raise their son alone.
  - How would you describe “The American Dream”?
  - Is there a role for “The American Dream” in the current environment?
  
3. Consider the scene in the movie where Chris and his son are shooting baskets. When young Christopher (Jaden Smith) announces he wants to be a basketball player someday, his father initially quashes the idea but then changes course, saying, “You got a dream. You gotta protect it. You gotta go get it.”
  - Has anyone ever encouraged or discouraged you in following your dream? How did you process that?
  - Why are some people quick to encourage or discourage the dreams of others?
  
4. **Read Proverbs 16: 3–4.**
  - What does it mean that God will “establish” our plans if we commit whatever we do to Him?
  - Have you experienced a time when God worked out “everything to its proper end” in your life?
  
5. **Read I Thessalonians 5:11.**
  - What are ways you’ve been encouraged due to God opening up possibilities to you?
  - What do you think we as a church want to be “when we grow up”?
  
6. How can we pray for you?