

# The Moonlight and a Dream

It started like many evenings – Mom and Dad at home and Jimmy playing after dinner.

But Bill Hybels, in his book *Who You Are When No One's Looking?*, tells something special about that particular night.

Mom and Dad were absorbed with jobs and did not notice the time. It was a full moon, and some of the light seeped through the windows.

Then Mom looked at the clock. “Jimmy, it’s time to go to bed. Go up now and I’ll come up and settle you later.”

Unlike usual, Jimmy went straight upstairs to his room. An hour or so later, his mother came up to check if all was well, and to her astonishment found that her son was staring quietly out of his window at the moonlit scenery.

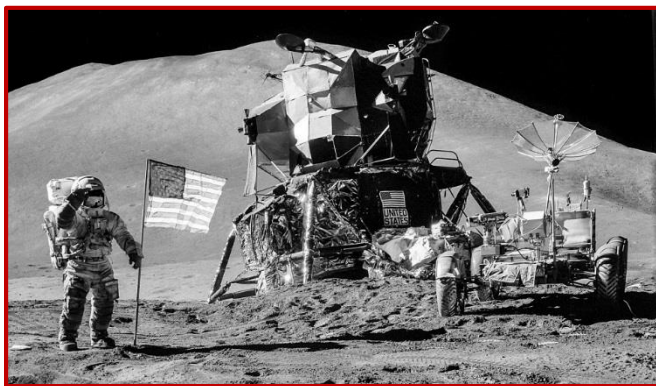
“What are you doing, Jimmy?” she asked.

“I’m looking at the moon, Mommy.”

“Well, it’s time to go to bed now,” she said.

As one reluctant boy settled down, he said, “Mommy, you know one day I’m going to walk on the moon.”

Who could have known that the boy in whom the dream was planted that night would survive a near-fatal motorbike crash that broke almost every bone in his body, and would bring to fruition this dream 32 years later when James Irwin stepped on the moon’s surface – just one of the 12 representatives of the human race to have done so?



Between July 26 and Aug. 7, 1971, as the Apollo 15 Lunar Module Pilot, Irwin logged 295 hours and 11 minutes in space. His extravehicular activity on the moon’s surface amounted to 18 hours and 35 minutes of the mission time.

After his retirement as a colonel in 1972, Irwin founded the High Flight Foundation. He spent the next 20 years as a “Goodwill Ambassador for the

Prince of Peace,” stating that “Jesus walking on the earth is more important than man walking on the moon.”

(more)

He frequently spoke about how his experience in space had made God more real to him than ever. "I felt the power of God as I'd never felt it before," he said.

The questions for us are:

- What is your dream or your passion, and when did it become real to you – as a child, in school, or in some adult experience?
- Are you pursuing it?
- Why or why not?

Jimmy Irwin's dream seemed impossible by the thoughts of most folks in his day, but he did it.

Perhaps your dream is reachable – if you want it badly enough.



*But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible (Matthew 19:26 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter