



Dream
AGAIN

Small Group
HOST GUIDE

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Small Group Report Example

HELLO, LEADER!

**IT'S A BRAND NEW YEAR, 2023,
AND I'M EXCITED FOR WHAT GOD HAS
FOR YOU THIS YEAR!**

I want to thank you for choosing to lead a group! We know the most important things in life aren't things, they are relationships.

For the next 6 weeks we will be answering these questions:
What is a dream? How do you get a dream? How do you know your dream is from God? How do you walk with your dream? How do you achieve your dream?

I encourage you to pray, seek God and do a character study of the life of Joseph. He was a dreamer and I believe you are as well! Let's dream again and dream bigger!

PASTOR DAVID BLUNT

- Gregory Smith
- Lashonda Martin
- Melinda Peterson
- Joe Brinks
- Timothy Hernandez
- Wanda Wright
- Jose Martinez
- Mark Supak
- Matthew Hershel

How did the small group go and do you have any questions?

- Joe messaged beforehand that he couldn't make it, but will be there next week!
- Melinda brought her friend Andy. It was his first time and he loved it! Plans to come back next week.
- Timothy started Growth Track last week!
- We prayed for Matthew's grandmother who has surgery on Friday.
- We shared with everyone about Eat Sweet Night!

Question: Our group shared in 2 weeks that majority can't make it on Tuesday, could we reschedule our group to Friday the 16th and have it at Red Robin?

SAVE

CANCEL



→ To eliminate confusion when managing your roster, we suggest to keep members pending until they show up to your group.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 1

CATCHING UP

What are you hoping to get out of this study, Dream Again?

Focus Verse

You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO *Dream*?

To **Dream** means to **think** or to **imagine**.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DON'T HAVE A DREAM?

WE HAVE NO DRIVE WITHOUT A DREAM

- 1 Without a dream we have no purpose.
- 2 Without a dream we have no future.
- 3 Without a dream we always go back.

YOUR DREAM TAKES YOU THROUGH TO YOUR DESTINY.

The Life of Joseph

- 1 God has a dream specifically for you.
- 2 God has a destiny for you.
- 3 God is making a dreamer of all of us.
- 4 The bigger the dream, the bigger dreamer I must be,
and the bigger the process will be.

Discovery Questions

1 What does it mean to Dream Again?

2 How is a destiny different from a dream?

3 What can you do this week to dream more?

DIVING DEEPER

- 1 Read the focus verse, Psalm 16:11 NKJV, every day this week as part of your daily devotions. Challenge yourself to have the verse memorized before your next Small Group meeting.
- 2 Share with someone outside of your Small Group one thing that you learned this week.
- 3 Invite a friend to your next small Group meeting.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 2

CATCHING UP

Share one meaningful thing that you learned last week from this study, Dream Again.

Focus Verse

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO Dream?

To **Dream** means to **think** or to **imagine**.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DREAM BIG?

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

PROVERBS 29:18 | KJV

- 1 Will see God's purpose in your life.
- 2 Will see God's will for your life.
- 3 Will see God's assignment for your life.

**YOUR DREAM
TAKES YOU THROUGH
TO YOUR DESTINY.**

TAKEAWAYS

- People will rain on your parade when you tell them your dreams. That's just part of it. Opposition and resistance are a part of getting a dream.
- Be careful what you say around the wrong people.
- Opposition is part of the process.

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOUR DREAM IS FROM GOD?

- 1 A dream from God is always bigger than you.
- 2 A dream from God will require God's help to achieve.
- 3 A dream from God will bring glory to God.
- 4 A dream from God will need others to help you achieve the dream.
- 5 A dream from God will bring significance into my life.
- 6 A dream from God brings satisfaction into my life.
- 7 A dream from God will shape and make me, and develop my character.

Discovery Questions

1 What is one thing you discovered through studying the life of Joseph?

2 What is one dream you let drop, but would like to pick up again?

3 Have you ever shared a dream with the wrong person and became discouraged? What did you do when you experienced resistance and opposition?

DIVING DEEPER

1 Read the focus verse, Psalm 16:11 NKJV, every day this week as part of your daily devotions. Challenge yourself to have the verse memorized before your next Small Group meeting.

2 Journal your dreams.

3 Commit to reading the One Year Bible in 2023.

4 Invite people from your Small Group to sit together during a Sunday service.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 3

CATCHING UP

Share one meaningful thing that you learned last week from this study, Dream Again.

Focus Verse

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE DREAM BIG?

Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

PROVERBS 29:18 | KJV

- 1 Will see God's purpose in your life.
- 2 Will see God's will for your life.
- 3 Will see God's assignment for your life.

YOUR DREAM TAKES YOU THROUGH TO YOUR DESTINY.

TAKEAWAYS

- You can get back on your feet when you fail.
- God planted eternity in your heart.
- God gives us the drive on the inside of us.

HOW TO HANG ON TO YOUR DREAM:

- 1 Only a dream from God can bring you significance and satisfaction.
- 2 Understand we have to surrender to God our life.
- 3 Understand God placed you in this time to achieve your greatness.

Discovery Questions

1 What is one thing you discovered through studying the life of Joseph?

2 What is one dream you let drop, but would like to pick up again?

3 Have you ever shared a dream with the wrong person and became discouraged? What did you do when you experienced resistance and opposition?

DIVING DEEPER

1 Read the focus verse, Psalm 16:11 NKJV, every day this week as part of your daily devotions. Challenge yourself to have the verse memorized before your next Small Group meeting.

2 Journal your dreams.

3 Commit to reading the One Year Bible in 2023.

4 Invite people from your Small Group to sit together during a Sunday service.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 4

CATCHING UP

Share how you are focusing on your dream.

Focus Verse

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO Dream?

To **Dream** means to think or to imagine.

HOW TO WALK OUT YOUR DREAM:

WHEN WE'RE WALKING OUT A DREAM, WE SHOULD BE ALLOWING GOD TO WORK ON OUR CHARACTER.

- 1 Know that God has a purpose for your life.
- 2 Know that God has a plan for your life.
- 3 Know that God has a plot of land for you.
- 4 Know that God has a period you live in.

YOU HAVE TO HAVE A SENSE OF DESTINY TO BE PRODUCTIVE, TO KEEP IMPROVING, TO KEEP GROWING, AND TO KEEP MOVING FORWARD.

HOW TO GET A DREAM FROM GOD:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 <u>Seeking</u> God. | 5 <u>Trust</u> God. |
| 2 <u>Surrender</u> to God. | 6 <u>Hear</u> from God. |
| 3 Cooperate with God. | 7 Get in God's <u>Presence</u> . |
| 4 Allow God to work in your life. | |

Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us.

EPHESIANS 3:20 | AMP

Discovery Questions

1 How are you enlarging your thinking and stretching your imagination?

2 What strategies are you implementing to work on your character?

3 How do you know your dream is from God?

DIVING DEEPER

1 Study the life of Joseph. Read Genesis Chapter 37 and Chapter 50. Challenge yourself to learn how God was with Joseph before your next Small Group meeting.

→ How did God prosper Joseph?

→ How did God favor Joseph?

2 Commit to reading the One Year Bible in 2023.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 5

CATCHING UP

Share one way you are enlarging your thinking and stretching your imagination.

Focus Verse

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

WHAT DOES A DREAM GIVE YOU?

- 1 Drive _____.
- 2 Purpose _____.
- 3 Significance _____.

**GOD HAS A DREAM FOR ALL OF US. GOD HAS A DESTINY FOR ALL OF US.
GOD HAS CALLED ALL OF US.**

Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

PROVERBS 29:18 | KJV

HOW TO DEAL WITH DISAPPOINTMENTS:

- 1 See your disappointment as an appointment to grow through, to get stronger, and to get better.
- 2 Let disappointments become a divine appointment for promotion, and let disappointments point you in the right direction.

Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us.

EPHESIANS 3:20 | AMP

Discovery Questions

- 1 Have you ever shared a dream with the wrong person and became discouraged? What did you do when you experienced resistance and opposition?

- 2 What strategies are you implementing to turn your disappointments into divine appointments for promotion?

- 3 How do you walk with your dream?

DIVING DEEPER

- 1 Study the life of Joseph. Read Genesis Chapter 37 and Chapter 50. Challenge yourself to learn how Joseph dealt with difficulty and disappointments before your next Small Group meeting.
- 2 Share with someone outside of your Small Group one thing you learned this week.
- 3 Commit to reading the One Year Bible in 2023.
- 4 Invite a friend to your next Small Group meeting.
- 5 Invite people from your Small Group to sit together during a Sunday service.

Dream AGAIN

WEEK 6

CATCHING UP

Share one thing that you have learned about the life of Joseph.

Focus Verse

*You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is fullness of joy;
At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

PSALMS 16:11 | NKJV

TAKEAWAYS

- God wants all of us to be a dreamer. No matter what size you might be dreaming today, the size of the capacity that you have in your spirit determines that capacity, and your spirit determines the dream that you carry. How big you are on the inside determines how big you are on the outside.
- When God gives you a dream, don't get discouraged and delay how long it may take. The bigger the dream, the bigger the person, the longer the process.

HOW TO ACHIEVE YOUR DREAM:

DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING SCRIPTURES AND ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS

- 1 What do these scriptures mean to you?
- 2 What did you learn from the scriptures?

*For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see.
The plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD,
which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth.*

ZECHARIAH 4:10 | NKJV

*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God
prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.*

EPHESIANS 2:10 | NKJV

*For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace
and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.*

JEREMIAH 29:11 | NKJV

Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

PROVERBS 29:18 | KJV

Discovery Questions

- 1 Pastor shared that no matter what size you might be dreaming today, the size of the capacity that you have in your spirit determines that capacity, and your spirit determines the dream that you carry. Describe what this means to you?

- 2 What important role does a vision have in achieving your dream?

- 3 How do you achieve your dream?

DIVING DEEPER

- 1 Continue to study the life of Joseph. Read Genesis Chapter 37 and Chapter 50. Challenge yourself to learn how God developed Joseph's character. Discuss what you are learning with a friend from your Small Group.
- 2 Commit to reading the One Year Bible in 2023.

Ideas to Help People Grow

- Invite them to sit with you in a Sunday Service.
- Share your personal story and what God has been teaching you.
- Share how Growth Track can help them grow and join a team.
- Invite them to check out the COTR Backstage podcast (backstage.cotr.org).
- Invite them to be water baptized (encourage your Small Group to be there).
- Share your spiritual habits; how you find time regularly to pray, worship, and read God's Word. Encourage them to make their own time with God.
- Invite them to come to special events at COTR.
- Tell them about our COTR Website, COTR App, and One Year Bible reading plan.
 - Watch past messages
 - Give
 - Stay connected
- If they are ready to receive Christ, offer to pray with them.
 - Ask God to forgive you of your sins (Romans 6:23, Romans 3:10, Titus 3:5-7)
 - Believe Jesus is God's Son and died for us (1 John 4:15, John 1:1,14, Romans 5:8)
 - Confess Jesus is Lord of your life (Matthew 10:32, Romans 10:9)

Tips / Tools

- **When is childcare available?**

We have childcare available on campus on Saturday afternoons at 2pm and Sunday mornings during our 11am service.
- **Where can I host my Small Group?**

You can host online, at church, and off site. Some of the most common meeting places are homes, restaurants, parks, coffee shops, and office buildings.
- **What are things we avoid in Small Groups?**
 - Self-promotion
 - Take offerings
 - Unapproved materials or speakers
 - Controversial topics and politics
- **How to prepare for your group?**
 - Arrive early
 - Creating the right environment
 - Test and have video ready
 - Welcome everyone
 - Warm up the group with an ice breaker (Tell me about your week)
 - Discuss this week's questions
 - Ask for prayer requests
 - Pray
 - Encourage them to grow (look at ideas to help people grow)
- **What should I do if someone asks a question I can't answer?**

It's okay to not have all the answers. Thankfully, we can find guidance through prayer, God's Word, and the Holy Spirit. Encourage them to spend time reading the Bible and praying. Also, let them know that you will do your best to get some information and get back with them at your next Small Group meeting. Do some personal research and call your Coach to get advice.
- **Questions to ask yourself when your group attendance is inconsistent:**
 - Does the meeting day/time work for everybody?
 - Are you doing everything you can as a leader to help people engage outside the group?
 - Are you texting them?
 - Have you connected with them on a personal level? (Anniversary, birthdays, trips)
 - Have you asked members for feedback?
- **How do I get my group serving?**

Encourage your group to get plugged into the Dream Team, by leading the way, talking about it, and inviting them to start by attending Growth Track.
- **What should I do if someone in my group shares something with me (or the group) that requires attention beyond what I (or we) can provide?**

If you encounter a difficult situation within your Small Group, please know that you are not alone. If a member is going through a crisis, you can rally the group around them to provide prayer and encouragement. Use wisdom and be sensitive to the situation. If you are unsure of what to do, don't hesitate to ask your Coach. Also, you and/or the group member can call the church office to the Small Groups Department at 636-294-7841 if needed.
- **Need a tip we didn't cover?**

Contact your Coach, they are there to serve you.

Small Group Host Expectations

General Expectations

- Complete Growth Track.
- Complete Background Check.
- Fill out Small Group online form (day, time, location).
- Attend and have your picture taken at the Small Group Training.
- Connect with your coach.
My coach's name:
My coach's contact info:
- Be open and honest with your group.
- Love your group well.
 - Pray for them
 - Lead them in discussion
 - Be full of grace
 - Invite members to attend every week
- Recruit members.
- Fill out your weekly report after each group meeting.
- Plan a party for the group's final meeting.
- Prioritize Sunday mornings (worship one, serve one).
- Contact those who sign up, introduce yourself, and share with them what to expect.
- Follow 70/30 Rule (70% of the group should talk / 30% of leadership should talk).
- Keep discussion positive (avoid politics, divisive issues, and negative talk).
- Respect boundaries (men minister to men and ladies minister to ladies).
- Serve at Small Group Rally by connecting with people and inviting them to sign up at cotr.org/groups for a Small Group.
- Stay up to date and connected to the culture by listening to the COTR Backstage podcast (backstage.cotr.org).

Zoom Expectations

- Make sure to have a computer or laptop (ipad or tablet will not work).
- Select a separate day with your coach or co-leader to test Zoom and Pastor's video.
- If you have trouble with your internet while playing the video from the website, use the special link to download the videos onto your computer.
- Arrive on Zoom 15 minutes before starting time.
- Make sure you have emailed and texted each person in your group the Zoom link.
- If your group is meeting over 40 minutes, we recommend you purchase a Zoom subscription (but not required).
- Make sure to keep your camera and on and facing you so your group can see you the entire time.
- Lead your group in a room that has good lighting where your group can see you.
- Encourage them if possible to put their camera on so you can see each other.

Onsite (at Church) Expectations

- Come early to prepare your room.
- Make sure lights are on in the room and everywhere your group will be (halls and areas near bathrooms).
- Leave the room as you found it (If you need to move chairs or tables, take a picture so you can put it back in the right spot).
- Take the trash out after your group finishes.
- Leave things better than you found them.
- Stay on time with your group (keep in mind that there could be a meeting right before or after your group).
- If something feels or looks wrong, please make a staff member aware immediately.
- Do not allow children to attend your group. Please utilize childcare (on Saturdays and Sundays).
- If an incident happens, please inform COTR staff member present and write up an incident report and also please contact your Small Group Coach immediately after your group.
- Avoid being alone with just one person at any time.

Offsite Expectations

- Must have enough parking at the site for the people to attend.
- Make sure there's no object near the activity that can cause harm to anyone or cause any damage.
- Keep your pets contained and away from people to avoid bites and/or allergic reactions.
- The site must look like our church culture. House must be clean, no obscene pictures, or improper music.
- Avoid being alone with just one person at any time.
- Provide a private room for one person to change clothes (if needed for activity).
- Do not allow children to attend unless you have childcare staff member and approval from church leadership.
- If an incident happens, please write up an incident report and contact your Small Group Coach after your group.