

VISIONS DREAMS & COVENANTS:

How to set (or re-establish) the tone
for your small group



- *Vision: According to Webster the definition of Vision is a:*
 - *dream, idea, mental picture, image, visualization*
- *What is our dream for POP's small group ministry?*

Ephesians 4:16

- *From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*
- God planned for his people to grow through people helping people. The body would “build itself up in love.”
- Small groups are a valid expression of what the body of Christ is supposed to be doing on the earth. (Townsend)

P.E.A.C.E. Group Ministry

Vision Statement

- To be an ever-expanding network of leaders, who create an ever-expanding number of small groups, where people are transformed by Jesus, and together transform the world around them.

Growing Your Group

- Healthy groups are multiplying groups.
- The focus on multiplication is necessary for the health of your group. It is the only way to keep your group healthy and the ministry alive!

Growing Your Group (cont'd)

- If the leader only focuses on group dynamics, leadership development will suffer. If a leader only focuses on discipleship, the group will grow inward and stagnate. If a leader centers on evangelism many believers will slip out the back door.

Growing Your Group (cont'd)

- To grow our ministry, you must
 - pray daily for your group members
 - prepare spiritually before God
 - invite new people
 - prepare lessons
 - and train new leaders. (Comiskey)

Dream Dream Dream Dream ..

- According to Dave Earley, author of *8 Habits of Effective Small Group Leaders*, the 1st habit of an effective small group leader is:

*Dream of leading a
healthy, growing, multiplying
group*

Dream Dream Dream Dream

- Having a dream:
 - Aids accomplishment
 - Focuses direction and channels energy
 - Increases the value of the group
 - Positively predicts the future
 - Motivates leaders to keep going



Visions

Understand the power of a vision!

You need a simple picture of success. Small groups aren't just a forum for fellowship. Small groups are a forum for the **Great Commission** and **Great Commandment** to be realized in people's lives.

Create a Vision With Your Small Group

The Vision portion of a small group meeting is where we learn how to put our faith in action.

1. *Have imagination.*

a. I wonder ..

b. Is there an opportunity out there...

2. *Collaboration*

a. This should be a shared vision that is formed by all group members.

b. If the leader is the only vision owner, he/she will be the only vision caster. (John 10 –the difference between the hired hands and the owners of the sheep)

c. Vision formed in community is a communal vision.

Create a Vision **With** Your Small Group

(continued)

3. Responsibility

a. Who has “skin in the game?”

b. Be sure that all members have a clear understanding of what their responsibility is

4. Write out your vision statement and make it part of your group covenant.

5. Revisit the vision regularly.

Vision for Our Small Group worksheet

Creating a Group Covenant

- Role Play – “How **not** to create your covenant.”
- Role Play- “How to create your covenant.”
- See Guidelines w.s.