

WEEK 10

LIVING OUT THE VISION FOR  
LIFE CHANGING SMALL GROUPS

THREE OBJECTIVES  
IN  
OUR SMALL GROUPS

**1. Deep Transformation**

- Romans 12:2
- II Corinthians 4:7
- II Corinthians 5:17
- Ephesians 4:17-32
- Philippians 1:6 (you plural)

**2. Healthy Fellowship (Honest – Inviting – Meaningful)**

This healthy fellowship is the context for transformation.

- Hebrews 10:24-25
- Romans 12:9-18
- Colossians 3:12-17
- Galatians 6:1-3

(Pray your small group time will be a taste of heaven.)

**3. Multiplication**

If we want to see the body of Christ transformed, then you and I must reach those who will reach others.

- John 17:20
- I Timothy 2:2

Look for the faithful and pray God will raise up new leaders.



**We want to see and be committed to DYNAMIC small groups, where God, through the work of the Holy Spirit, accomplishes His purposes in and through us.**

If we are to accomplish this, there is a contextual issue we must all recognize:

“The Cosmic Battle”  
Truth and reality vs. lie and illusion

The truths of God	vs.	lies of the world, flesh, devil
Romans 12:2	vs.	Colossians 2:8
John 14:6	vs.	John 8:44

War of the heart – I John 2:15-17  
War of the mind – I Corinthians 3:18-20  
The weapons we fight with – II Corinthians 10:1-5

- The consequences of listening to the lies of the world are huge!
- If you listen carefully, you will hear the weeping.
- If you look closely, you will see the devastation that those lies are reaping upon mankind, including believers and a large portion of the body of Christ.

### What We Want To See In Our Small Groups

In the life of believers:

1. We would see radical change and God’s transforming work – II Cor. 3:18
2. Christians solid in their faith – II Tim. 2:15
3. Righteous in their actions – Rom. 12:9-18; I Peter 2:12
4. We would be salt and light in a desperate world – Matt. 5:13-16

In the non-believer’s life we would see God’s redeeming work through the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives (John 16:7-11) so that:

1. The gospel and its implications would clearly be understood and experienced  
I Thess. 1:5
2. Our faith in Christ would be clearly evident through the changed lives of believers  
I Thess. 1:8-10
3. They would understand that Scripture is God’s word  
I Thess. 2:13
4. Many individuals would see the need and have the opportunity to receive Christ and become a child of God  
John 1:12

## **Three Roles of a Small Group Leader**

Introduction:

Remember the cosmic battle is real. Becoming a captive in this battle is very real and the consequences are real.

It is God's truth that sets us free and requires the power of God.

Faithful persistent prayer of the saints can break the stronghold – II Cor. 10:3-4

Members of your small group may have been taken captive by the lies of the world.

### **Great time for Discussion Here**

As servant leaders in our small groups, we must pray and remember the instruction of II Timothy 2:22-26 as we help people escape the captivity of Satan, the prince of this world.

**Now let's look at the three roles of a small group leader**

## THREE ROLES OF A SMALL GROUP LEADER

**Intercessory Role** – praying for small group members

**Shepherding Role** – leading, feeding, and caring

**Hospitality Role** – welcoming and loving

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### INTERCESSORY ROLE

- If you want to see transformation, you will have to ask God for it. – James 4:2
- Pray for each guest/individual by name.
- We believe prayer is the foundation of our small groups.
- Truth sets us free, not just hearing and reading the truth, but it needs to take root in the heart/life. (Praying is key in this process.)
- The success of your small group is not dependent on your ability to lead discussion (although that's important), but **the most important thing you do for your members is the time you spend praying for them on their behalf.**

**The Power of Prayer** – Mark 9:14-29

- o Context of story – 9:14-27
- o The teaching on prayer – 9:28-29

#### **Practical Suggestions:**

1. Put your guests' names on a 3x5 card.
2. Go through them before you meet to remind you of them and pray for them by name.
3. After your small group, pray and update any request or need you might have observed.
4. Be faithful to pray for them in specific ways.

#### **Pray that:**

- o The Lord will reveal Himself to them
- o He will expose lies and wrong thinking
- o They will not run away from the exposure
- o He will perform His deep transforming work within their minds, hearts, and lives.

Why God has ordained to work through the prayers of His people, I don't completely understand, but it is true. **The intercessory role is critical, and I believe the most important of the three.** Ask God to perform His mighty work solo deo Gloria!!

## THE SHEPHERDING ROLE

1. Running your small group effectively and on time.
  - Stewarding time and resources.
2. Caring for your guests/group members.
  - Do they have a Bible? How familiar are they with Scripture?
  - Provide pen, paper, or other helps.
  - Help them get to know each other by name.
3. Feeding them
  - Teach the Word in a way that makes a significant connection with their life.  
Matt. 4:4; I Peter 2:2; II Tim. 2:15  
(See Shepherding Small Group material)

## THE HOSPITALITY ROLE

Hospitality means love of strangers. Friendliness and unconditional love is important. Relationships are very important!

1. Relationship between you and your guests/members
  - Learn their names, interests, passions, about their family, friends, school, work, play, etc.
2. Relationships between guests/members
  - Ice Breakers are helpful
  - Be sensitive to those not involved
3. Remove distractions – clean up your room, etc.
4. Do special things together.
5. Get and encourage personal time with people.