



session 1

God's Dream For Your Life

Take It In Watch the video

ALL PARENTS HAVE A DREAM

- Our kids can be the source of our greatest _____ or deepest _____.
- Our Heavenly Father has a dream for every one of His children.
- God's dream is to make you like His _____.
Matthew 5:48, Romans 8:29, Ephesians 4:13
- God's dream for every child of His is to become a disciple—
a _____ Christian.
- Romans 12 is the _____
of what it means to be a disciple.

5 Key Relationships Romans 12 Biblical Response

Being a Romans 12 Christian is first and foremost _____.

Romans 12 Overview

- Relationship with God
- Relationship with the world
- Relationship with yourself
- Relationship with believers
- Relationship with nonbelievers

Being a Romans 12 Christian is also _____.

1. Relationship with God  _____ to God

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

ROMANS 12:1 (NIV)

This verse answers the question, "How do you give God what He wants the most?"

The missing ingredient = _____.

- Relationship with the World  _Separate_ from the World.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

ROMANS 12:2 (NIV)

This verse answers the question, "How do you get the very best from God?"

The missing ingredient = _____.

Talk It Over

- As you were growing up, what was your view of God? What was He like and how has that view changed?

- In your opinion, why are so many Christians not living out the dream God has for them?

3. How has your view of a mature Christian (disciple) changed? Why?

4. Chip said “being a Romans 12 Christian is first and foremost relational”. What are some other words that Christians might say is first and foremost in being a good Christian? For you personally, what are the implications of viewing the Christian life as relational?

Live It Out - B.I.O.

Bio is a word that is synonymous with “life”. Found in those three simple letters — B.I.O. — is the key to helping you become the person God wants you to be.

B = COME “BEFORE GOD” DAILY

Meet with Him personally through prayer and His word to enjoy His presence, receive His direction, and follow His will.

I = DO LIFE “IN COMMUNITY” WEEKLY

Structure your week to personally connect in safe relationships that provide love, support, transparency, challenge, and accountability.

O = BE “ON MISSION” 24/7

Cultivate a mindset to live out Jesus’ love for others through acts of sacrifice as well as service at home, work, play, and church.

Come Before God

5. Becoming like Jesus requires you developing a personal, intimate relationship with your heavenly Father. What does that look like in your everyday life? And what is a step you need to take to go deeper in your relationship with God?

Do Life in Community

6. Chip said God's dream is to make you like His Son. Part of what God uses to make you like His Son is authentic relationships with others (biblical community). Who in your life has had significant impact on helping you become more like Jesus?

Be On Mission

7. "The greatest need today is for Christians to live like Christians". Describe what "living like a Christian" means for your life. Get specific and practical.

Accelerate (20 minutes that turns concepts into convictions)

Inspiration comes from hearing God's Word. **Motivation** grows by discussing God's Word. **Transformation** occurs when you study it for yourself.

If you want to "accelerate" your growth, here is an assignment you can do at home each week. Our convictions become even stronger when we dig into Scripture and discover truth for ourselves. To help you get the most out of this exercise, consider partnering up with somebody in your group who will also commit to do the assignment this week. Then, after you have each done the assignment, agree to spend 10 minutes by phone sharing what you learned and what you are applying.

Come Before God

1. Read the following passage through a couple of times. Read it slowly, really paying attention to the flow of what Paul is saying.

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

ROMANS 12:1-8 (NIV)

2. Go through this passage and circle all of the commands. Look for verbs and action words.

3. Why do you think Paul uses the imagery of “living sacrifice” to describe surrender? What are some characteristics of a living sacrifice?

4. Spend a few minutes coming before God in prayer, asking Him to reveal anything that stands between you and total surrender.

Do Life in Community

5. In verse 5, Paul says, “...so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.” Write out some specific characteristics of what it means to “belong to all the others”.

Be On Mission

6. Read over Romans 12:2 again. How is being “separate from the world” crucial to being “on mission”? Is there some area where you have been conformed to the pattern of this world? What steps do you need to take to be separate from the world system?