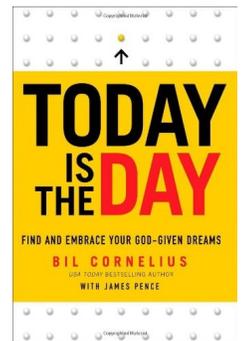


**Chapter 3.** Transform your God-given dreams into goals. (Philippians 3:13-14, Joel 2:28-29, Proverbs 20:18, Ephesians 3:20)

**Leader:** The way to make our dreams come alive is by using our imagination to create a mental picture with our goals. What we focus on increases, and written goals help keep us focused on making our dreams a reality. Fuzzy plans will not help us either. We can create goals with focus if we include the following: be specific with lots of details, make goals measurable (numbers, standards, metrics), set deadlines, schedule goals on a calendar (and place deadlines where they will remind us regularly), and create a to do list with deadlines. When we feel discouraged and ready to quit, we may be stopping just short of the exciting blessings God has for us.



*Question: What is the next thing you have to do to accomplish your dreams? What is the next step after that? What habits need to be created?*

**Leader Note:** No matter how much we can imagine, remember that God can always do immeasurably more. We can turbocharge our goals (reach them more quickly) by increasing our efforts and shrinking the rest period between our efforts. This may mean we need to remove some things that waste time in our lives. "We overestimate what we can do in a year and underestimate what we can do in a lifetime." Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*

**Chapter 4.** Change your beliefs. God can and will do something great in us. (Romans 8:11, 28, 37, 2 Peter 1:3, Proverbs 23:7, Philippians 4:13, 2 Corinthians 12:9, Isaiah 43:19, John 1:9)

**Leader:** We are what we believe. Many of us live lives of contradiction. On the one hand, we claim to believe God is all-powerful, and nothing is impossible for Him. But when we get down to the nitty gritty of our personal lives, we don't believe God can or will do anything great in us. There is no reason why we cannot believe that, with God's help, we can see our dreams be fulfilled far beyond anything we could have imagined. The great thing about beliefs is that they are free of charge. Beliefs won't cost us a penny, but they are important to have. We must replace our negative talk with positive talk about ourselves. Our words must match our new beliefs that God wants us to succeed in our dreams.

*Question: What words must you use to match your new beliefs about your God-given dreams?*

**Leader Note:** Everyone feels confident in something. If we want to accomplish what God wants us to accomplish, our dreams, then we must believe that we are able because God is able.

**Chapter 5.** Cover your dreams with prayer. (Isaiah 40:31, Luke 18:27, Exodus 18:13-24)

**Leader:** God wants us to seek Him through prayer about our dreams. Prayer is about talking to God and sharing everything on our hearts with Him. More importantly, prayer is about getting still and listening for God to speak to us. It may be that we are praying, but only giving ourselves enough time to talk to God without giving Him time to speak to us. In our arrogance, we often think that we will convince God to do something on our behalf. He wants to show us that He is already working on something bigger for us than we could imagine.

**Three Key Steps in Seeking God:** (1) Practice the presence of God. Read the Bible regularly and keep a journal. (2) Receive His direction and power. Make notes of what God is telling you and see that it aligns with Scripture. Stay and pray longer until we hear something from Him. (3) Seek confirmation through the wise counsel of godly people.

*Question: Why is seeking God in prayer so important?*

**Leader Note:** We often pray to seek God's will, but God's will is that we pray to Him. God has a secret to share with us. He won't let anyone in on this secret except with each of us. God will challenge us to grow by giving us a God-sized dream that demands a life of faith.