

## Applying It In My Life.....Group time - 25 minutes

1. There are five categories of dreamers – Those with no dream; those with a low dream; those with the wrong dream; those with a vague dream; and those with God’s dream. Describe how each of these attitudes impacts a persons perspective? Which category most commonly describes you? Why? Which category would you like to describe your life? What would have to change in your life in order for you to be a person with God-inspired dreams?
2. Refocusing on the future looks not at who we are but who we can become. Where do you desire to overcome your past and experience change in your future? How does your thinking about yourself need to change in order for you to give yourself permission to focus on what you could “become”?
3. How would you feel if you knew someone you looked up to was praying for your future and for what you could “become”? Who in your life believes in you and encourages you in this way? How does this knowledge energize and stabilize you? Who can you encourage and pray for – believing not in who they are but what they can become?

## Prayer Time.....Group time - 15 minutes

Praise God that He offers redemption and restoration to each of us. Thank God for both the grace He displays towards you and the new vision of your future that He provides. Ask God to help you to be a God-inspired dreamer. Ask God to use you to encourage others – speaking into their lives the truth of who they can “become” in Christ.

Finish your prayer time by praying for the needs of those in your *Growth Group*. Take a few minutes to share prayer requests. Ask someone in the group to record your prayers so that in future weeks you can see how God is answering your prayers.

## UNLEASHING HOPE *Refocus on the Future*

### Five Benefits of Refocusing on the Future

1. Replace apathy and discouragement with PASSION. Exodus 2:1-9
2. You experience great COMEBACKS. Ephesians 2:10
  - God prepared our future to be IN CHRIST and for good works.
3. Grace frees you; future vision FUELS you. 1 Samuel 1:10-15
4. You are set free to DREAM. Genesis 37:2-11
5. Forward momentum STABILIZES and ENERGIZES. Ephesians 3:20-21
  - Fresh vision leads to ENCOURAGEMENT.

# GROWTH GROUP HOMEWORK

Week of April 27 – May 2

## Getting Started.....Group time - 15 minutes

1. What's the most inspirational thing anyone has ever said to you? How did their positive statement about your future inspire you concerning who you could become? Where are you actively helping others see their future in a positive way?

FOR GROWTH GROUP TIME

## Getting Into God's Word.....Group time - 35 minutes

1. Read Exodus 2:1-9. What steps did Moses' mother, Jochebed, take in the midst of a sorrowful time in order to provide a future for her son? What was her dream for Moses? How was she able to replace apathy and discouragement with hope?
2. The Bible is rich with comeback stories. Review a few of your favorite stories of redemption and restoration. What are some of the common characteristics of these stories? Who is the hero in all of these biblical stories? Why?

3. Read 1 Samuel 1:10-15. What evidence do you see in Hannah's story of continued hope? How did God's grace free Hannah from her difficult situation? How did Hannah's future expectation impact her current situation?
4. Read Genesis 37:5-11. Joseph was a dreamer. How was his dream of becoming a ruler fulfilled? How was the pathway to that fulfillment filled with many twists and turns? How was Joseph able to overcome the terrible misfortunes in his life and be used by God? How did God use Joseph's dream to change the history of His people?
5. Read Mark 1:17; Philippians 3:13; and Ephesians 3:20-21. What made Jesus such an effective developer of people? What changes in our life when someone says to us, "I am able to see you not as you are right now, but in terms of what you can become." How do the promises in these passages offer us hope and vision for the future?