



WEEK 3 HOST GUIDE

Vision & Faith: Pressing Toward the Prize

Seeing Beyond Where You Are

A 6-week biblical leadership small group experience designed to help people grow in faith, find breakthrough, and step into the leadership God created them for.

Launching May 2026

Week 3 Overview

Theme: Vision & Faith: Pressing Toward the Prize

Core idea: Leaders see what others do not yet see, and take steps toward it.

Wins and Breakthroughs

Begin by asking: What wins did you experience last week? Did anyone have a breakthrough they would like to share?

Host Flexibility Note

This outline is designed for discussion. Feel free to shorten sections based on group size, engagement, and meeting format. The most important part of the program is helping people share, reflect, and grow together.

Host Introduction

Last week we talked about identity and living from acceptance instead of for acceptance. This week we are talking about vision and faith - learning to see beyond where we are and move toward what God has placed in front of us.

Vision helps us see it. Faith helps us believe it. Action helps us pursue it.

Session Flow

- 1 Welcome the group and ask for wins or breakthrough moments from last week.
- 2 Introduce the theme of vision and faith.
- 3 Read Philippians 3:13-14 and discuss the mindset of pressing forward.
- 4 Share or play the video story from Mark and Tracy.
- 5 Read the host teaching on faith-filled words and moving mountains.
- 6 Guide discussion using 2 or 3 of the questions provided.
- 7 Close with prayer requests and prayer.

Core Teaching

Core Idea

Leaders see what others do not yet see, and take steps toward it.

Vision and faith are essential because leadership often requires moving forward before the full path is visible.

Biblical Support

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ.

Paul had not arrived.

- He still had setbacks.
- He still had challenges.
- Yet he kept moving forward.

Additional Scriptures

- Mark 11:22-24
- Proverbs 18:21
- Habakkuk 2:2

Leadership Connection

Vision sees it.

Faith believes it.

Action pursues it.

Leaders must learn to see beyond current circumstances, speak life instead of limitation, and take action even when the path is not fully clear.

Video Story: Mark and Tracy

Mark

Your life will generally move in the direction of your thoughts and words. Years ago, we were in a business that had grown beyond what we felt we were worthy of. We were generating an income that did not seem realistic for people who were not educated or did not have any business background.

The business had grown every month for five years. One day I remember saying, "I sure hope this does not go away." Fear started to creep in. I became insecure about what would happen if people left us. For the next nine straight months, we started declining. What I feared was starting to happen. I got what I said.

One day in a meeting, I got excited and told about 200 leaders of the company that we would have a 25% increase in the next 90 days. Remember, we were in momentum going down, not up.

We were new in our faith and were reading The Prayer of Jabez. We were believing the Word that nothing was impossible with God. After I finished my talk, Tracy came up and said, "What did you say?" I said, "No, I did not mean in 90 days. I meant in the next 6 months."

Tracy

I could not believe what Mark had said. We had planned out this big, crazy goal, and even six months did not feel long enough to make it happen. The fact that he had shortened it by three months was crazy.

But all the leaders were excited and inspired by the goal. Remember, our business had been declining for nine months, which meant our leaders had been experiencing that decline as well.

Video Story Continued

Tracy

Mark wanted to stand up and correct what he really meant, but I said, "No, you cannot. They are believing we can do it." We actually argued about this for about three days.

Then we went to work and started speaking life over the goal. Not one day did it really look like we were making progress, but we kept our faith and continued to work. Not only did we meet the goal, but we exceeded it.

Mark

Mark 11:22 says, "Have faith in God." Whoever says to this mountain, "Be removed and cast into the sea," and does not doubt in his heart, will have whatever he says.

Years ago, I adapted the Principle of 100. That means if I share out of my heart a vision of what is going to happen, I believe it will happen by faith. I did not start out believing, but as I kept speaking it, I felt my faith growing. I began to believe God was going to open doors - and He did.

We not only saw something that had been sinking for nine months turn around in three months, it actually doubled in a year. So the question is: how did it happen? Why did people get excited about our goal? The truth is, they did not. Our faith was not about our own ability. It was about what God was doing.

Tracy

In the past, our goals were about what we could accomplish. With this goal, we were relying on what God could do. Our conversations were about how we believed God was doing something new, and we were excited to be a part of it.

Faith-Filled Words

What we learned in this experience is that people do not really get excited about following you. They get excited about following what you are following. It is for God's glory and not our own.

We also learned how important our words were. We found ourselves constantly talking about how tired we were, and before long that became our reality. When we began speaking faith, possibility, and God's favor instead of our limitations, our perspective began to change.

Mark

If we are talking about how hard things are, they are going to get harder. If you have been in a battle that is making you tired, start speaking that God's favor is opening doors.

If you are fighting addiction, say daily, "This time next year, I will be celebrating a year of being free." Speak words of faith: "I am prosperous, healthy, and joy-filled."

In my personal life, my faith grows when I am trusting God while moving forward in faith or coming out of something. When I feel weak in my own ability, I am stronger in my faith. Growth never happens in complacency.

Host Reads

In Mark 11:22-23, Jesus teaches that faith in God has the power to accomplish what seems impossible. He uses the illustration of speaking to a mountain - symbolizing obstacles - and commanding it to move. This passage highlights the authority of faith-filled words and the importance of unwavering belief, showing that trust in God enables believers to overcome challenges and see His power at work in their lives.

Leadership Connection

Leaders:

- See beyond current circumstances.
- Speak life instead of limitation.
- Take action before they see the outcome.
- Continue moving forward when the path is not fully clear.

Discussion Direction

Use these themes to guide the conversation as the group responds:

- Speaking life - Proverbs 18:21
- Taking steps even when the path is unclear
- Writing the vision - Habakkuk 2:2

People do not follow you; they follow what you are following. When you are following based on God's Word as your foundation, people trust your consistency as a leader.

Host Moment

The host may share personal experiences of failure and success. This could include a physical challenge, business challenge, financial situation, family moment, or personal step of faith. Use all of this section or part of it based on participation and the needs of the group.

Discussion Questions

The host can use some of these questions or use their own. Depending on the size of the group, you may only get through 2 or 3 questions.

Question 1

What is something God placed on your heart that required faith to pursue?

Question 2

Have you ever experienced a situation where God did more than you thought was possible?

Question 3

Why do you think people sometimes stop pursuing dreams they once felt excited about?

Question 4

What is one area where you believe God is asking you to take a step of faith?

Optional 5

How can we help our children or the people we are leading pursue God's purpose for their lives instead of simply chasing the approval of others?

What Can You Do to Grow This Week?

- Write the vision.
- Speak the vision.
- Take a step.

Prayer Requests

Ask for prayer requests and close in prayer.

Facilitator Quick Reference

Use this page as a simple guide while leading the session.

Big Idea

Leaders see what others do not yet see, and take steps toward it. Vision sees it. Faith believes it. Action pursues it.

Remember to:

- Begin by asking for wins or breakthrough moments from last week.
- Keep the focus on faith, vision, and forward movement.
- Encourage people to speak life instead of limitation.
- Allow meaningful stories to breathe, but do not force anyone to share.
- Help the group connect vision to one practical next step.
- Close with hope, prayer, and expectation for what God can do next.

Suggested Closing Words

Tonight, we talked about vision and faith. My encouragement is that we ask God to help us see beyond where we are, speak life over what He has placed in our hearts, and take one faithful step forward this week. Vision sees it. Faith believes it. Action pursues it.