

**SEASONS****Week 1: Dreaming**

Sept. 7-8, 2019

Adam Waite



⇒ *Leaders: note items marked with the arrows are key discussion questions if you're short on time.*

**WARM-UP**

What season of the year is your favorite, and why?

**INTRODUCTION**

- ⇒ Spring is the season where people plant gardens and farmers plant their fields. Take a few minutes to discuss the importance of a seed.
- ⇒ It might sound obvious, but what is the difference between *having* seeds and planting seeds in the ground?
- ⇒ Read **Matthew 13:3–9**. In what way could the farmer in the parable have been dreaming big?
- ⇒ Without getting too deep into minute details, discuss what you think the parable means overall.
- ⇒ Just as with waiting for seeds to grow into plants, when we plant “seeds” of a dream or aspiration, there is a waiting time before we see fruit. Describe how that waiting time feels for you.
- ⇒ What are some reasons we might get discouraged in pursuing our dreams if we base them on the results we see initially?
  - Why is persistence often necessary to see dreams come to fruition?
  - What gets in the way of the fulfillment of a dream?
- ⇒ Let's think about our aspirations. What is the difference between “living the American dream” and in living a dream with God's kingdom in focus?

**BIBLE APPLICATION**

- What is your definition of a dreamer?
  - If someone has a smartphone handy, look up the definition of “dreamer” online and compare.
- Discuss why being a “dreamer” could be considered both positive or negative.
- Thinking of it in the positive sense, would you consider yourself to be a dreamer?

- ⇒ What tools does the enemy use to discourage our dreams?
- ⇒ It has been said, “If your dream doesn't scare you, it's too small.” As a Christian asking God for a dream, what do you think is meant by this statement?
- ⇒ Name as many people you can think of from the Bible who were considered dreamers.
- ⇒ Now break into groups of 2-3 and **use your Bible** to either look up the story of someone you already listed, or search for more examples.
- ⇒ Come back together and tell the group what you think we can learn from the examples we find in the Bible.

Pastor Adam made three points in his sermon:

Dream Big  
Keep Dreaming  
Live the Dream

- Discuss what each point—each step—means and why it is an important step.

**NEXT STEPS / ACTION**

- ⇒ What dream do you feel God has placed on your heart?
  - What steps do you need to take to make that dream a reality?
  - What scares you about that dream?
  - What reasons do you sometimes allow to get in the way of pursuing that dream?
- ⇒ Read **Ecclesiastes 3:1** How can this verse be an encouragement now if you have had a dream in the past and not pursued it, but feel that it is now coming back?
- ⇒ If you don't know what God might be calling you to do, spend some time in prayer this week and journaling, asking God for clarity.

**PRAYER**

Pray for clarity about the dreams God has given each of you. Pray for patience while you faithfully pursue God's call. Thank God for the fruit you have already seen as he has brought your dream to life.

