



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide
The God Box – Part 4
LEADER GUIDE

SMALL GROUP LEADERS: - Remember the C's of Small group health:

CONTENT - biblical, intentional, and conversational

CONSISTENCY - regular meetings and interactions with one another

CCARE - sharing life's ups and downs with grace, love and encouragement

CELEBRATION - celebrating God's grace to us and having fun together

COMMISSION - participating in what God is doing now during our lifetime on earth

CHARACTER - as a leader – growing in my example for my group

ICE BREAKER:

- Where do you find it most difficult to wait (i.e.-doctor's office; on your wife; at a restaurant; in a check-out line; traffic; etc?)

INTO THE WORD:

Read [John 15:1-8](#)

- 1) How does this passage describe God's work in us? His work through us?
- 2) What is your reaction to the imagery of "pruning"? How does this shape your perspective about seasons of waiting in your life?
- 3) What is our role in being fruitful?
Teaching Tip: Spend some time letting your group discuss the concept of "remaining" or "abiding" in Christ. This concept helps us see the relational nature God seeks to have with us and that everything we do is dependent upon God. Abiding or remaining involves staying conscious to His Word and our identity in Him so that we obey Him due to our great love for Him. Of course, this love for Him is caused by His great love for us!
- 4) What is God's desire for us now on earth according to verse 8?
Group Leaders: Ask for members of your group to read [Matthew 28:19-20](#) and [2 Peter 3:8-9](#).
- 5) Based on John 15:8, Matthew 28:19-20 and 2 Peter 3:8-9 ... what should we be doing while God delays the 2nd Coming?
Group Leaders: Use this as a time to talk about disciple-making with your group and what that looks like. You can reference some of the blogs and videos found on the Discipleship blog site at discipleship.rockbridge.cc. You can also talk about our upcoming baptism celebration at the creek.

APPLY THE WORD:

- 6) What are some areas of your life that you are treating like a project that need to be seen as a process? How does this perspective change your attitude and actions?
- 7) Living for projects and destinations can indicate that our identity is not grounded in Christ or abiding. Instead, we are defining ourselves by our accomplishments, experiences, or how people see us. What dangers and temptations are you or could you possibly face due to this?
- 8) If your ultimate "destination" was to know and enjoy God, what "little by little" steps could you start taking? How could this group support you?

PRAYER TIME:

Sentence Prayer suggestion:

- *Pray for any temptations or struggles that are shared in your group.*
- *Pray for the "little by little" steps each other identified.*