



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Spirit Blockers – Part 1 LEADER GUIDE

SMALL GROUP LEADERS: - Remember the importance of CELEBRATION.

Celebration is a way we both love God and others. God desires our praise, and in the Gospel we have much to praise Him for. We can also praise Him when life change occurs as people respond to His grace. Additionally, celebration is about having fun together.

- **GOAL: Groups should do something “fun” together at least once a quarter, such as a cookout or dinner out together, bowling, visit a park, etc.**
 - Some other ways to celebrate God’s grace in group life include: Communion; Worship songs; sharing praise reports and ‘snapshot’ stories of times when God really worked in your life; reading a psalm out loud together; etc.
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Ice Breaker: (Choose one to answer)

*Who is someone in culture today that you really admire because of their perseverance or endurance in work or marriage, mission, etc?

Into the Word:

a) What was one key point that really affected you from the message?

Read John 15:1-10

b) What does it mean to “remain in Christ” in this passage? What does it look like when we don’t remain in Him?

Leader Tip: Be sure to draw the connection between remaining in Christ and remaining in the Holy Spirit, which is the same thing.

c) In v.7 & 10 what does it look like when Jesus “words remain in” us, and when we keep His commands? Are these the same things?

Leader Tip: Obedience is the only way to keep the words of God alive in us. Otherwise we literally numb ourselves to them.

d) In v.9 Jesus said that as the Father had loved Him, He had loved His followers. What did that love look like?

Apply the Word:

e) What is the role of obedience to our relationship with God? When we don’t obey, what is the relational result?

f) What are common ways that we grieve the Holy Spirit and resist Him?

g) How can we put our *relationship* with God first? What could that look like?

h) Each of us is called to respond not to something that was said in the message but to Someone who is eternally interested and in love with us. We are called to respond relationally to our Father. How can each of us do that? What is the response we need to take?

Prayer Time:

Pray for each person in the group based on the response to the final question above.

Please join us in prayer as a church for these things:

- *For our hearts to be soft to God and open to Him working.*
- *For our students and children to be impacted this summer to pursue God with passion.*
- *For opportunities for all of us to share Jesus' love with those who don't know Him.*