



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide  
**Songs of Summer - Part 6**  
**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)

\*What is a great memory for you from Fourth of July celebrations?

**Into the Word:**

\*How would you summarize the message to someone you were relaying it to?

**Read Mark 8:11-21**

a) What is the leaven (or yeast) that Jesus was warning about in this passage?

Leader Tip: Jesus is confronting the hypocrisy of the religious leaders, a hypocrisy that while they appear righteous and good, their lack of openness to God’s work has blinded them from seeing Jesus as the true Son of God.

b) Jesus issues a very strong rebuke to the disciples in vv. 17-19. He calls them hard-hearted. What does that mean in this situation?

Leader Tip: Even as Christ-followers our own faith can grow dim and cause us to be afraid of things that do not warrant fear, such as a temporary lack of food.

c) Have someone look back at Mark 8:1-10, and summarize what just happened before this encounter in the boat. Why do you think Jesus was even more stern with them?

**Apply the Word:**

d) Of the aspects of faith discussed in the message, what was most eye-opening to you?

Leader Tip: The main aspects of faith discussed were: 1) God wants a relationship with us, and 2) we cannot have a relationship without Faith. 3) Faith determines what we reach for, and 4) Faith determines what we see about God.

e) What is the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

f) After hearing the message, what does our dependence on the Holy Spirit look like? How would you describe it to a friend?

g) How reliant on the Holy Spirit and on God's power are you? What do you need to do to become more dependent?

**Prayer Time:**

Pray for each person in the group to choose to believe God more, and seek to rely on the Holy Spirit more.

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

- *Mission trips from Rock Bridge would impact the world for Jesus.*
- *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.*