



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Where We See God - Part 2 LEADER GUIDE

SMALL GROUP LEADERS: Are you praying for new people to connect to community?

- Please pray with us this season for connection and community.
 - Participate in Small Group Connect on January 27th (in Dalton also the 24th).
 - **Invite people you meet to join your small group.**
 - **Personal invitations are the most effective of all.**
 - Pray for new small groups and new leaders to launch.
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Ice Breaker:

*What was one of your New Year's resolutions?

Into the Word:

Read Acts 4:23-34

Leader Tip: This passage illustrates how we should deal with fears that could keep us from living fully for Jesus and His mission.

a) How did the church handle the threats and resistance to the mission of spreading the Gospel?

b) Specifically, what did their prayer contain, and what was their final "request" of God?

Leader Tip: The point is they addressed fear of men vs. fear of God. They recounted the threats of the past, and that God was in complete control over the situation to accomplish His purposes. Then they asked for boldness to speak fearlessly, and for God to demonstrate His power so people would know for sure He was with them.

c) What was God's response to their prayer? What did He give them?

Leader Tip: He gave them a physical confirmation of His answer, and then gave them more of Himself! Intimacy with God always helps us overcome our fears of the world and our circumstances.

d) What characterized the fellowship of the early church in this passage? What type of community and care for each other did they have?

e) Assuming this is what God wants for His church today, what stands in the way of this?

Apply the Word:

- a) What would you say is your own understanding of the "Fear of the Lord?" Why do you think this needs to improve in your own life?
- b) If you are honest with yourself, how important is prayer to you? Why is that?
- c) What do you need to do to make community and connection a bigger part of your life? What is in the way?
- d) One of the biggest challenges for Christians is making room in their lives to reach and connect to people who need to know Jesus. Is this a challenge for you? Why or why not?
- e) Discuss as a group: for your campus, what are three things you can do (including prayer) that will require action for you all, that will help advance the mission of the church?

Our Mission: We exist to glorify God by connecting people from all walks of life to life in Christ.

Prayer Time:

Pray for your answers in e) above, praying that God will enable you to accomplish those things to help the mission of the church.

Also pray with us....

- 1) That we would be bold in going after people for Jesus and making room for them in our lives.
- 2) That we would pursue more of God through time with Him, and pursuing Holiness that displays His nature in us.
- 3) That we would be radically dependent on the Holy Spirit and believe God for big things in the New Year!