



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide

Ezra – Part 7

LEADER GUIDE

Leaders, remember our WIN: **Making DISCIPLES**

Today you will notice a few changes to the Discussion Guide.

These changes are designed to accomplish the following:

1. **Increase awareness for Obedience:** God calls us to obey His word, not just hear it. If we love Him we obey Him!
2. **Increase accountability:** We have to help each other in becoming Christ Followers. This only happens if we ask each other about progress and hold each other accountable to commitments we make to God and to ourselves.
3. **Clear Goals:** Each week we will add a discipleship goal so the intention of the message and the discussion guide is clear.
4. **More breaking up into smaller groups:** this can facilitate greater accountability and vulnerability in groups that have larger attendance and participation.
5. **Occasional Homework:** We will add some things that allow us to continue our journey outside of small group. Encourage your group to take this seriously!

Thanks for leading a group and helping make disciples of Jesus!

Ice Breaker:

*When is a time when you had someone apologize to you and it was very meaningful and powerful to you?

Discipleship Goal: *As disciples of Jesus, we must understand that walking with Him requires us to walk in repentance.*

Into the Word: **Read I Peter 1:13-16**

a) Why are passages like this difficult for us to accept? In other words, why is John 3:16 more popular than I Peter 1:16?

b) Why is it important to understand that holiness is not a condition of our relationship with God but a result of it?

Leader Help: If we ever get to the place that we see holiness as a condition, then we have forgotten the work of Jesus to purchase our relationship with God. We can never, ever be holy enough for the relationship Jesus purchased for us.

c) How does this passage impact your life at this moment?

--Warning? Conviction? Confession?

Obeying God's Word:

a) Take a few moments to review the sermon series: *Ezra--The Way Back*. What are your top 2-3 takeaways and applications from the entire series? What has meant the most to you?

b) Why does repentance need to be a constant prayer and pursuit in our life of following Jesus?

Group Leader Helps: Be sure people understand what repentance really is and looks like.

From the sermon: Repentance sees sin correctly as hurting/offending God; makes specific & voluntary confession; looks to Christ in faith for forgiveness/grace; and resolves to fight/crucify the sin.

c) Where in your life is repentance needed? How can we support you in moving toward repentance here?

Group Homework:

As a group, commit to memorizing 1 Corinthians 10:31 in the next few weeks.

Also, review any previous commitments (homework or Scripture memorization) since the last group meeting.

Group Prayer Time:

a) *Personal prayer: Pray for the areas of repentance shared above.*

b) *Disciple-making prayer: Pray for specific people you are investing in for Kingdom purpose and/or who you want to invite to Easter services.*

c) *RBCC Prayer: Pray Colossians 4:2-4 ... open doors for Gospel love, Gospel invitations to church, for Cleveland, for our missionaries around the world, for Rock Bridgers in their relationships to be able to speak Jesus to people*