



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Proverbs – Part 2 LEADER GUIDE

Small Group Leaders: Remember one of the 5 C's of Small Group Health - Celebration

Even in the business of summer we can come together and remember God's goodness and faithfulness in our lives. Celebrate together as a group! Have a cookout or party or go to dinner together. Make group more than a meeting, make it life with real people doing life together!

P.S. – Be on the lookout for information about a fall Groups campaign! We will need your help!

Thanks for leading a small group!

Ice Breaker:

*Describe a time when someone gave you really great advice, and what was it?

Discipleship Goals: *To encourage and equip group members to read an entire book of the Bible (Proverbs) over the next month. To help people understand the importance of guarding their hearts in their walk with Jesus.*

IMPORTANT Leader Help:

Encourage everyone in your group to participate in "Time with God" and reading through Proverbs over this month. To sign up, simply text "TWG" to 706-671-2171 or pick up a hardcopy in the lobby.

Into the Word Read Mark 7:1-23

Leader Help: This story is a long passage of scripture. Have several people read a portion of it.

a) Talk about this story as a group. Why were the religious leaders offended with Jesus and his disciples? What was going on?

b) What was Jesus' response to the religious leaders? Where did he tell them the true source of immorality is?

Leader Help: Jesus rebuked them for focusing on actions and traditions rather than on hearts that are given over to God. The true source of immorality is our hearts, when we are not really submitted to God and His leadership in our lives.

c) In what ways or situations can you compare this story to the "religious" culture of some churches and Christians today? What can we sometimes do to others that Jesus would probably take issue with?

Leader Help: Discuss what church traditions today can often get in the way of people finding Jesus. There is no right answer to this... Have your group just talk it through!

d) In Jesus' response to his disciples in vv. 20-23, which ones do you sometimes struggle with, and why do think that is a struggle within your heart?

Obey the Word:

a) What does it mean to you to take ownership of the News Feed in your life? What would that look like for you?

Leader Help: This could look like deliberately reading more scripture and spending more time in God's word, less time in the news or on the internet, and specifically addressing "lies" that we are all believing to some degree in our lives.

b) In what area of your life are you struggling the most to believe God's story and promises?

c) Of the "Heart Checks" listed in the message, which ones encouraged or challenged you the most?

Leader Help: The four heart checks were 1)our peace, 2) our words, 3) what we look at, and 4) our goals, hopes, and dreams.

d) What is one thing you plan on doing this week in response to the message?

Prayer Time:

Pray for each member of the group for the response to the last question, asking the Holy Spirit for the grace to do what we have each decided to do.