



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide Fresh Start – Part 1 LEADER GUIDE

Small Group Leaders: Are you preparing for the Be Like Jesus Campaign?

What if we ALL as a church clearly demonstrated Jesus to our communities? What if we really lived, loved, and served the way Jesus did? Our communities would be CHANGED!

Starting September 8th, we will be asking EVERYONE to participate in a small group for six weeks, as we corporately study the life of Jesus and encourage each other through biblical community to be more like Jesus. We are called to make disciples, and that is what we desire to do!

Here is how you can help! As a current small group leader:

- **PRIORITIZE** - As a group, please prioritize the campaign, and plan on meeting every week **for six weeks**. We will still have first Wednesday, and it will be a part of the campaign, so plan on coming as a group.
- **MAKE ROOM** - Does your group have room for more people, at least for just the six weeks? Contact your campus groups representative and let them know.
- **STEP UP** - If any of you have led a group before or have thought about leading before, help us lead or even facilitate a group for the six weeks!
- **PRAY** – Pray for our church and Invite people to join your group! Invite people to your group and encourage the disconnected to take a step!

Ice Breaker:

*Share something you like to do to refresh and recharge?

Into the Word: Read Philippians 3:4-14

a) Paul had a past. Why did his past no longer have power over him?

b) Paul was driven by promises of the future. Describe those promises (see verses 8-10 and v. 14). Are those promises available to us?

Teaching Tip: In Christ, those promises are available to us--see 2 Corinthians 1:20--in Christ.

c) What keeps people from the passionate pursuit of these promises?

Teaching Tip: Often times people believe Christianity is all about and only about forgiveness of sins and not fuller and greater intimacy with God. Therefore, after a person "gets saved" or receives forgiveness, they do not know about the grace that is ours to pursue and receive. Sometimes people are held back by their past. Help your group identify areas of unbelief that keep them and others from pressing forward in faith.

d) Imagine you are talking to a new Christian. How would you encourage them to keep growing and moving forward in their faith? What "future grace" would you be sure they knew about?

Obey & Apply the Word:

a) (If necessary) -- Ask 2 people in your group to answer this question: *If you bumped into a friend in the grocery store line who missed the sermon, how would you describe to them the gist of it in about 90 seconds or less?*

b) As you heard the message, where in your life are you sensing God call you to a fresh start? What point of application from the message resonated most with you?

c) What is the biggest threat that could prevent you from your fresh start?

d) What is your "next"?

Teaching Tip: Write down everyone's next and commit to praying for your group. Review these "next steps" each group meeting and see how you and the group can encourage and support one another.

Prayer Time:

Complete this sentence prayer:

Lord, thank you for fresh starts. God, I am praying for a fresh start in _____. Help me to believe that with You, the best is always yet to come. Amen