



Rock Bridge Small Group Discussion Guide 30 Days to Live – Part 2 LEADER GUIDE

LEADERS: *As Easter is approaching, help your group begin to live and act missionally. Cast vision for discipleship and evangelism and work to hold your group accountable to missional living. Even if members seem resistant, we all need to be challenged to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent!*

SOME KEY QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER ASKING YOUR GROUP EACH MEETING:

- *Where have you seen Jesus this week?*
 - *What are you reading in your Bible?*
 - *Where have you had the opportunity to share the Gospel or build a relationship with someone with the intentions of sharing the Gospel?*
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ICE BREAKER:

- Who is someone you credit with sharing the gospel with you in a meaningful and impacting way?

MAIN POINT:

- *Death is either a termination of expectations you had hoped in or a prerequisite to get to something much better. Read this out to the group as a type of road map for where the discussion should go.*

INTO THE WORD:

*Before reading this passage as a group, consider the following **Core Questions**. Read these questions aloud to frame up your discussion.*

1. What does this passage reveal about what God is like? I.e. Obvious statements, attributes of His character, ability, etc.
2. What are some key words or phrases and how do they help us understand what is being said?
3. Is there some kind of action that we are called to? A sin to confess? Something to thank God for? Someone to pray for or encourage? A behavior I need to change?

These are questions that can/should be used to help teach basic Bible observation. Use the same questions each week. It is good to have them read the questions prior to reading the passage so that they read with the questions in mind.

Passage Summary: *Paul instructed Timothy to not live in fear & shame and how to embrace suffering for the Gospel. His solution is to realize what has been given and achieved in the Gospel. The Gospel has achieved salvation, the defeat of death & the gift of eternal life which are gifts of grace as God calls us through the heralding of the gospel.*

Read the Summary out loud before the passage. This will help set up the direction of the discussion.

Passage(s) to Read: 2 Timothy 1:8-12

DISCUSSION:

1. Discuss the core questions as they relate to the passages.
2. In v. 8, how or why might Timothy have struggled with shame or embarrassment about Paul and the Gospel?

In that day the Gospel was very offensive (and even illegal) in Israel because it did not rely on the law of Moses and the Temple. It was also offensive to the Greek/Roman culture because it was not a logical or intellectual argument. It was about trust in Jesus. In many ways we all prefer to be “good upstanding members of society” and when we can’t be, it is hard for us, and causes us to want to shrink back in embarrassment/shame.

3. In v.9, how does it help us to remind ourselves of the nobility of our purpose and calling when it comes to facing embarrassment, shame and persecution?

We all long for a purpose that transcends the temporary, and gives us connection to the eternal. It is hard wired in our hearts, "He has also put eternity in their hearts" - Ecc. 3:11. The greater the purpose and the more noble, the more likely we are to sacrifice and give our lives for it.

4. In v.10, describe together as a group exactly what Jesus did to abolish death and give us life and immortality?

Leaders: this is an important opportunity to clarify the gospel of Jesus to the group. Make sure EVERYONE can verbalize this. Jesus died on the cross to take the penalty for our sins. Our sin separates us from God because sin must be punished. Jesus took the punishment once and for all, so that anyone who believes in him and trusts in his work could be saved.

APPLICATION:

5. What aspects of your Christian life do you enjoy and look forward to? What aspects of it do you consider hardship and suffering? Which of these do you focus on the most and why?
6. How does focusing on the "win" we receive in eternity help us endure hardships? How would you rate yourself on actually practicing this focus: 1- Never, 2 - Seldom, 3 - Sometimes, 4 - Frequently, 5 - All the time.
7. How might you be ashamed of the Gospel and Christianity? Talk about what might be holding you back from living more fearlessly.
8. We have a noble and Holy calling. What does that mean to you today and how can you honor it with your life?

STEPS OF OBEDIENCE

Get in pairs. What is one thing you can do this week to move forward in more eternity focused living? Share it with the other person and commit to praying for yourself and for them.

PRAYER TIME

- Pray for one another specifically in the answers to #7, supporting each one in the group as they seek to surrender or reframe an area of life.
- If anyone in the group has a special prayer request, make sure that is shared with the group.