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Hey leaders! As we continue our “Off Limits”, our prayer is that your group will encourage one another to allow God’s transformative grace to touch the parts of your lives that have remained untouched for too long. We also recently added NEW features that we hope you find helpful and encouraging! We’ve incorporated sermon quotes into the questions; a practice for your group to try throughout the month; and a “recap” card that can be shared a day or two after you gather.

Thank you for shepherding a group of people to Love God, Love Others, and Live Sent!

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or discipleship@rockbridge.cc

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“It struck me how hopeless the world is when God is factored out of the equation.”
[Lisa Beamer]

LEADER RESOURCES || Leader Note We do our best to equip, empower, and encourage you to shepherd your group well. Access a resource by clicking on the underlined title and share them with your group!

- Certain In Uncertainty
 - This would be a good resource to share with your group after you gather.

ICEBREAKER || Leader Note The goal for the icebreaker is to build joy and gratitude together. If you’d prefer, you can ask this question: What are you grateful for or how have you experienced joy this week?

Share about a time that you were uncertain, yet God showed you something wonderful or timely.

BEGIN WITH PRAYER || Leader Note Begin your time together by thanking God for his presence and praying His word back to Him. Ask a few people to pray, beginning in a posture of humility and dependence!

Spend a moment praying this passage, beginning your time together in humility and gratitude!

“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”
[Philippians 4:6-7]

BIG IDEA || Leader Note Read this aloud so your group knows what the theme of today’s discussion is.

In uncertainty, we must be open to the grace of confrontation or warning.

PASSAGES || Leader Note For this week, we will read a few verses from the sermon passages and then answer a question or two. Please follow the instructions in the “Discussion” section.

- Selected passages from this week’s sermon

DISCUSSION || Leader Note Your role is to FACILITATE the conversation, so keep your group moving and encourage multiple people to share, looking for opportunities to point out the grace and glory of God! Here are two REMINDERS: 1) Every question does NOT have to be answered ... there is freedom to go where the Spirit leads! 2) The answers do NOT have to be read aloud ... they are simply there for guidance!

1. From this week's sermon: *"Uncertainty is hard because its cousin is control, which is related to fear."* How have you found yourself controlled by fear in an uncertain situation recently? What did that do inside of you? How did it affect others? *This is a great opportunity to go first!*

Have someone read Isaiah 30:1-2 aloud.

2. From this week's sermon: *"Fear the flesh act, which is a decision or choice driven by something other than obedience and faith."* How often do you notice yourself wanting to pursue a "flesh act" rather than what God wants for you? Why do you think that is?
3. From this week's sermon: *"God is not concerned about our 'beliefs' per se, but our functional faith (how we navigate our journey and actually live)."* What about the way you "actually live" seems to be in contrast with God's will right now?

Have someone read Isaiah 31:1-2 aloud.

4. Where or how are you currently trusting in human wisdom, abilities, and plans rather than God's wisdom, power, and words? What's the invitation from God about that?

Have someone read Isaiah 42:8 aloud.

5. How do you think God feels about us searching for solutions that are not His?
6. From this week's sermon: *"God's greatest gifts often come in improbable packages."* What gift from God might you be overlooking right now? How could you put yourself in the right posture or attitude to see those kinds of gifts?

Have someone read Isaiah 30:15-16 aloud.

7. From this week's sermon: *"We are often willing to be delivered, but not go deeper."* How is God trying to give you the gift of deeper rest, wisdom, or grace? How can you embrace that deeper gift?

Have someone read Isaiah 30:18 aloud.

8. God's compassion and mercy is never meant to stay only with us. Who is someone you can show His compassion or mercy to? How could you do that?

Have someone read Psalm 130:5 and Ephesians 6:17-18 aloud.

9. In what ways can we put our hope in God's word, both personally and in community with one another?
10. How is the Spirit inviting you to trust Him to stay alert through prayer? Why is that hard for you at times?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE || Leader Note This is an opportunity for people to put into practice what the Spirit is inviting them to do and live in obedience to God for the sake of love! You can encourage your group to be accountable to one another and use these to follow up with one another throughout the week.

Based on the Holy Spirit's prompting today, **what is a step of obedience that you can take?** Here are three invitations to consider in the uncertainty ...

- How is God inviting you away **FROM** unbelief?
- How is God inviting you to deeper intimacy **WITH** Him?
- How is God inviting you to greater dependency **ON** Him?

Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 3-4 for this question.

PRAYER FOCUS || Leader Note *We want to commit to praying for OTHERS as a unified church who is dependent upon God for everything. Be intentional about saving at least 5-10 minutes for prayer at the end of your small group each week to pray for the focused area below.*

Decisions

- How we make decisions can be off limits to Jesus. Pray for one another to have the courage to surrender the decision making process to Jesus.
- Consider sharing with a friend in your group a decision that you need to make in the near future. Ask them to cover you in prayer as you go through the decision making process.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE *Optional* *We include a monthly spiritual practice that can be shared with your group after you gather. Our hope is for this to enhance what we're learning and discussing together, so share about your experience with the practice at the beginning of your gatherings or throughout the week!*

Centering prayer is a practice that leads one into the inner room of the soul and can usher you deeper into prayer, opening yourself up to the transforming power of God's grace more readily!

- [Centering Prayer](https://rockbridge.cc/centering-prayer-2) or rockbridge.cc/centering-prayer-2