

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

WHO IS GOD?

Part 4: The God of Purpose

March 13, 2011



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prayer Partner: Just a reminder to identify at (1) person in your group who will commit to praying for everyone in your group and that would like to receive other prayer requests from other groups within the small group ministry. Contact michelle.bauman@therocksandiego.org with the person's contact info, thank you.

Potential Small Group Leaders: As we grow in the ministry we are looking for solid and quality leaders to step up and lead groups of their own. We encourage you identify an apprentice that can come alongside to learn more about small group leadership, or someone that is ready to start leading today. If you have someone in mind, please contact scotty.james@therocksandiego.org and he would like to connect with you and them to get this process rolling.

MEMORY VERSES

"And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, 'Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.'" (1 Cor. 1:30-31 ESV)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5 ESV)

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – WHO IS GOD?

Getting Started

1. Review the 4 points of "The God of Purpose" as listed in the lesson plan:
 1. Without God we have no **meaningful** purpose. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:26-27)
 2. Our purpose is to fulfill the **intent** of our design. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:26-28)
 3. The intent of our design is to eternally **glorify** our Designer. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:29-31)
 4. Our purpose can only be fulfilled through a dependant **relationship** with our Designer. (cf. 1 Corinthians 1:30-31; John 15:5)

2. Go around as a group and discuss what you feel God’s purpose is for you individually?

Digging Deeper

The following questions will be in response to the passage below:

“In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:11-14 ESV)

1. After reading the above passage as a group, have everyone go around and state one thing we are promised to inherit, or we have become recipients of.
2. In verse 11, Paul states, “...of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will...” What does the author mean by “all things” and how does this encourage you in your faith?
3. How do you view the “will of God?” How do you believe God reveals his will to us?

Read the following verses that correspond with the following topics. Discuss these passages (some or all of them) that pertain to the will of God. Have everyone mention their response to these verses.

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| • Calling | 1 Peter 1:15-16 |
| • Regeneration (Born Again) | James 1:18 |
| • Sanctification (Made Holy) | Heb. 10:10 |
| • Transformation | Rom. 12:2 |
| • Prayers | Eph. 6:18; 1 John 5:14 |
| • Submission | Acts 21:14 |
| • Whole life | 1 Pet. 4:2 |
| • Daily work | Eph. 6:6 |
| • Plans | James 4:13-15 |
| • Suffering | 1 Pet. 3:17 |
| • Perfection | Col. 4:12 |

4. How did reading and discussing these passages encourage you in pursuing and knowing the will of God in all areas of life?