

# S M A L L      G R O P      Q E S T I O N S

**Miles McPherson**

**Cult Fiction, Part 3**

**International Church of Christ (ICC) or Boston Church of Christ**

**June 26, 2005**

## A N N O N C E M E N T S

**Book Drive:** The Rock Academy is building a school library and we are in need of book donations. If you have books that you would like to donate to our library, you can leave them at the back of the Rock Church Sanctuary next to the Share Ministry Box, drop them by the Rock Academy, or call for a pick up. Contact the Rock Academy at 858-467-4787 with any questions.

**Dunamis:** Come together with the body of Christ for an evening of worship, the Word, and prayer. Experience Dunamis this **Tuesday, June 28**, 7-9 PM in the sanctuary.

**Married Couples of the Rock:** Our 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Married Couples Retreat is coming **July 15 – 17**. What unsaved couple will you invite to join us at La Quinta Resort and Spa? Stop by the Small Group table for more information or register online at: [www.therocksandiego.org](http://www.therocksandiego.org).

**Women of the Rock:** What's Your Identity in Christ? (Isaiah 61, "Ashes for Beauty") Join us for a weekend with Nancy Stafford **August 12-14** at the Calvary Chapel Conference Center in Temecula. Activities: icebreakers, the Word, worship, relaxation, jacuzzi, hot springs, swimming, tennis, paddleboats, basketball, volleyball, socializing at the coffee house, ice cream, smoothies, drama, games, dance, fun and rest!!! Registration Fee: \$155 per person. Sign up at the Women's Ministry table in the sanctuary after service.

**Tijuana House Building:** Your group can come together and build a simple shelter for a family in Mexico. Put some action to your faith and plan to join us during any of the following dates: **September 10, October 29, December 3, or January 28**. For more information, contact Ed Crenshaw at 858.571.3427 or [tjhousebuilding@therocksandiego.org](mailto:tjhousebuilding@therocksandiego.org).

**Memory Verse:** *"Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved-you and your household."*  
– Acts 16:31

### **Purpose:**

- *Learn* more about the person of Jesus
- *Understand* more deeply Jesus identity as God
- *Identify* where the teachings of cults go wrong
- Become more *equipped* to witness to people in cults.

### **Prayer:**

Pray for the marriages and families of the Rock. Pray that our younger married couples will learn from the older marriages in the church, and that struggling marriages will be restored. Pray that husbands and wives would have a desire for a better marriage and would have hearts willing to work for it. Pray that the upcoming retreat will be a time of rest, renewal, and recommitment for everyone. Pray that the financial needs are met for everyone to attend. Please pray for the retreat planning team in prayer as they finish the final details.

**Connect:**

1. If you are in a discussion with someone of a different faith, is it more effective to begin with identifying what you have in common or focus on your differences? Why?
2. If evangelism is not one of your gifts, is sharing your faith optional? Why or why not?

**Grow:**

*The following are just a few aberrant doctrines of the International Church of Christ (ICC). As you go through the questions, be sure you are digging into the Word and searching for additional Scripture references to back up your answers.*

3. Baptism is essential to salvation in the ICC. What is the position of the Roman Catholic Church on baptism? The Protestant Churches? Why is it important for us to understand what other denominations, cults, and religions believe?
4. Read Galatians 5:19-21 and James 5:16. The ICC will have potential converts read these passages and then make a list of all their sins. This list is often brought up in various situations to keep control over the individual. How would you correct this misinterpretation of Scripture? (Galatians 6:1, I John 1:9, Psalm 103:12)
5. Read Matthew 28:19. The ICC will use this verse to justify their extreme tactics in building disciples. How should we raise disciples in the body? (Deuteronomy 4:9; Proverbs 27:17; I Samuel 12:23,24; Titus 2:1) Are you spending time raising a disciple in the body? Why or why not?

**Live:**

These are some additional beliefs of the ICC. Consider how you would respond (with Scripture) to the following:

- \* Baptism, by emersion, is essential to salvation. Baptism must be as a “true” disciple or it is not valid. Baptism must be performed in the ICC to be valid.
- \* Being a disciple is necessary to be a Christian.
- \* There should be only one Church in each city or town.
- \* The ICC is *the* true remnant of God’s people as the true Church.
- \* Only ICC baptized members are saved.
- \* Sin lists of disciples are kept, often to be brought up in various situations.
- \* Those who think for themselves and question the authority system are labeled “bad heart,” “struggling,” and “not really a disciple.”