

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## Why You Do What You Do

July 30, 2006

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Hope to see you this Saturday at the Small Group Summer Picnic!** – Saturday, August 5, 11 AM - 3 PM at Allied Gardens Park, 5155 Greenbrier Ave., 92120. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and be ready for some fun. If you didn't get a lunch ticket in advance, make sure you bring a picnic lunch with you (since we cannot sell lunch tickets the day of).
- **Has your small group blessed your life?** We want to hear about it. To receive a Small Group Testimony Form, contact Andy Rodgers at [andy@therocksandiego.org](mailto:andy@therocksandiego.org) or 619.226.7625 x242.
- **Women...**do you want to get away for a weekend to relax, spend time with Jesus and other Christian women, and glean from dynamic and down-to-earth speakers? Join us for our annual Rock Women's Retreat "Extreme Makeover to Extreme Takeover," August 11-13. \$165. Contact Karen Sutton at 619.225.0145 or [karensutton@cox.net](mailto:karensutton@cox.net). Scholarships are also available.
- **Forefront with Miles McPherson** - Channel 4 has just completed production on a special featuring the life of Miles. This will be aired on 8/2 at 4:30 PM, 8/6 at 8:30 PM, 8/10 at 8:30 PM. You can also read a short biography on Miles at <http://www.4sd.com/ff/forefront.php>.
- **For all other Rock Announcements** please go to <http://www.therocksandiego.org/announcements/> or see the Rock Event Calendar at <http://www.therocksandiego.org/eventcalendar/>.

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – WHY YOU DO WHAT YOU DO

It doesn't just matter *what* we do. To God, it also matters *why* we do it. We learned this weekend that we are to do all things out of response to God's love. This week in small group, you have the opportunity to consider what motivates you to do the things you do and how you can live more and more out of a response to God's love.

### Getting Started

1. Can you think of someone whose actions are clearly driven by the love of God? What sets them apart? What kind of things do they do?
  
2. Can you think of someone in your life who is motivated by the things of this world? What sets them apart? How can you tell the difference in this person than the one driven by God's love?
  
3. Most of us spend our day doing things for other people--we work for an employer, please clients, maintain our homes, care for our families, help our neighbors, etc.). Consider the things you do for others and make a list of the motives that drive these behaviors (i.e. obligation, personal gain, passion, compassion, love, duty). Overall, what is driving your behavior?
  
4. Motives determine our actions. In your opinion, why is it important to consider what motivates us? Why isn't it enough to just look at what we are doing?

### **Digging Deeper**

1. The Bible closely parallels our motives with the condition of our heart. In the following scriptures, what does the Bible tell us about the importance of our motives and the condition of our heart?
  - a. Deuteronomy 6:1
  - b. I Samuel 16:7
  - c. Proverbs 4:20-23
  - d. I John 3:18-20
  
2. God's concern for the condition of our heart is not just to show us the depth of our sinfulness, but it is a good indicator of our relationship with Him. By examining our motives we can see how well our heart lines up with God's heart. Consider these verses:
  - a. Psalm 7:10
  - b. Proverbs 23:7
  - c. Matthew 5:8
  - d. Luke 12:34
  - e. I John 3:21-22
  
3. We cannot simply *will* our hearts to change; it's pretty difficult to just decide to be driven by the love of God. But the more you know about God's love, spend soaking it in, and letting Him love you, the more you'll take on that quality. It's through an encounter with God that our hearts are changed.
  - a. Psalm 4:7
  - b. Hebrews 10:10

### **Bringing it Home**

1. Why is it important to first *experience* the love of Christ before we expect it to compel us? Have you been putting the cart before the horse, or in other words, have you experienced the richness of His love? If so, what's preventing you?
  
2. What can you do this week to experience the love of God? What areas of your life might be "blocking" God's love from coming in?
  
3. Consider either a relationship or a job/task you have to complete during the week that is not driven by the love of Christ. Can you envision how it would be different if you let the love of God flood that area of your life? What would change if your behavior in this instance was compelled by God's love?