

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

Numbers, Part 3

August 13, 2006

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Mark your calendar for our next Leadership Event!** All leaders, hosts, apprentices, and leaders from other ministries are invited! Friday night, September 22 will be an “Experiencing God” event with great worship and a guest speaker. Saturday, September 23, morning and afternoon will be filled with practical how-tos related to your ministry. You’ll not want to miss this opportunity to sharpen your skills as a leader, so be sure to block out your calendar on these dates. More details to come.
- **Small Group Leaders** - haven’t taken your picture yet for the new Small Group Directory? You can do so this Sunday, August 20 after all services except the 7:15 PM service. We’ll see you at the picnic tables between the Sanctuary and Pebbles Building, 3556 Ruffin Rd.
- **Small Group Leader Biography and Testimony Form** - still need to send this in? Contact Andy Rodgers at 619.226.7625 x242 or andyr@therocksandiego.org.
- **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 – BUT I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO DRIVE

When we embark on a road trip there are many different jobs and positions along the way, but of all the jobs and responsibilities only one has the final say or decision making authority. That’s the driver. It doesn’t matter what the “map reader” might say about which way to turn if the driver doesn’t want to go in that direction. And it doesn’t matter what the “treasurer” advises about where to eat if the driver doesn’t want to take that exit. When you’re on a road trip, you are at the mercy of the driver.

This could be why the driver seat is often the coveted position. We all want to do things *our way* and we all resist someone else telling us how things are going to be done. At one time or another, we all want to be in the driver’s seat. This week we are called to examine who is actually in the drivers seat (whether we like it or not), why we desire the power of the driver’s seat, and how we might need to change our life to submit to His authority.

Getting Started:

1. Why do we find the driver’s seat so attractive? Why do we crave that position?
2. What’s difficult about letting someone else drive?

Digging Deeper

3. In Luke’s Gospel (Luke 8:40-48) we find a model for surrendering control and acting on faith alone. Read this passage together. In what way did this woman put Jesus in complete control of her life? In what way is she a model of what it means to surrender control to Jesus?

4. This woman had faith without knowing the end of the story. You may be in the middle of your story and are fearful about how it may end; you maybe fearful about the direction God is driving the bus. What can you learn from the example of this woman?

5. Jonah was a man God designated for a particular job. He was “driving” Jonah to Nineveh when Jonah tried to get off the bus. Read Jonah 1. What did Jonah do instead of heading God’s direction? Why do you think Jonah was able to sleep through such a violent storm?

6. Even though Jonah tried to assume control, God used extreme measures to remind Jonah that Jonah doesn’t call the shots. Does this resonate in your own life? What are your experiences with wanting to assume control? How did God remind you that you He is the one with the vision and the plan to take you to places you could never imagine (Ephesians 3:20)?

Bringing It Home

Fear and a desire for control often feed our need to be in the driver’s seat. Jesus’ disciples were fearful when they lost control of their boat during a severe storm (Matthew 8:26). In this story, Jesus was like a loving father taking care of his fearful infant by saying, “Don’t worry. I’ve got it all under control. I’m not going to let anything happen to you.”

7. Take a minute to write down what scares you about letting go and letting God be in the driver’s seat. Listen to Jesus’ loving voice saying, “Why are you so afraid? I’ve got it all worked out.”

8. What areas in your life do you need to surrender control? What encouragement do you find in Matthew 6:25-34?