

# SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

## Extreme Home Takeover, Part 3

Questions written by Pastor Paul Garrison

March 25, 2007



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Small Groups & Community Clean-Up** - You have the opportunity with your small group to be a part of a Community Clean-up near our church in Serra Mesa. The team will pick up trash, pull weeds, and perform general clean-up at Taft Middle School (9191 Gramercy Dr., 92123) on April 7, from 9-11 AM. To be a part of this, contact Mark Richardson at [markr@therocksandiego.org](mailto:markr@therocksandiego.org) or 619.226.7625 x293.

**Sleepless in San Diego** - Do you have a passion for helping the poor? Don't know what you can do to prevent homelessness? Come sleepout or sponsor someone to sleepout! Saturday, April 28 - Sunday, April 29 at the San Diego Community Concourse. For event details or to register for the sleepout, visit [www.sleeplessinsandiego.org](http://www.sleeplessinsandiego.org) or call 619.819.1853.

Women, you're invited to **Wonderland: a conversation over tea**, April 28, 1-3 PM. This twist to a traditional tea will leave you inspired and challenged as you hear how God blesses the desires of our heart. For more information, go to [www.therocksandiego.org/eventcalendar](http://www.therocksandiego.org/eventcalendar). To help with this event, contact Tiffany Walton at [fanynicwal@hotmail.com](mailto:fanynicwal@hotmail.com) or 619.379.6105.

For all other Rock events, please go <http://www.therocksandiego.org/eventcalendar/>.

## MINISTRY PRAYER REQUESTS

*As "small groupies," you are the heart and soul of this ministry--who better than you to lift up the Small Group Ministry in prayer? So, it's up to you, you can spend time in your small group praying for these things (weekly or occasionally), or you can pray during the week on your own time. And if you'd like to be added to our Pastor's Prayer Team(s), just let us know. John Dehnert, Mark Collins, or Paul Garrison, our small group pastors, would love your prayers! We send out a monthly email of their personal and ministry prayer requests. Just contact Andy Rodgers at [andy@therocksandiego.org](mailto:andy@therocksandiego.org). May God work through your prayers mightily!*

**Reaching the Lost:** Who can you invite or bring with you to the Rock Good Friday and/or Easter Services? Be praying for opportunities to invite those God puts on your heart.

**Current Small Group Leaders/Small Groups:** Rock Small Groups exist to help you grow up to full maturity in your relationship with God and others; pray that this would continue to happen. Pray for godly life-change and growth within our groups.

**Potential Small Group Leaders:** Our first Phase 1 Training for 120 Potential Leaders is this Saturday, March 31. Please pray for their training process, the future of their small groups, and that the small group staff and coaches would train and shepherd them well.

**Small Group Staff:** Please pray for rest, replenishment and protection.

**The Rock Body:** Please pray that our weekend church population would respond to our small group sign-up campaign scheduled for April 28/29 and May 5/6. Our goal is to offer over 100 new small groups to our church, but we know that God has to put it on their hearts to want to get into a group. Pray that they'd find a good "group-fit."

## MEMORY VERSE

*By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace. Hebrews 11:31*

## SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – RENEWING THE RELATIONSHIP

It's very natural for relationships to deteriorate. When you've known someone for a long time, it's easy to stop focusing on the relationship, because the person is so much a part of your life; since the person has been with us for so long, we assume they'll be there forever. But, there are times in most relationships when we refocus on our relationships and the people we love. This is one of the reasons for marriage retreats, books, and seminars; they try and focus the couple's attention on each other, to help them remember their love at first, and the promise they made to each other. With God, we also can lose focus on the importance of the relationship we have with Him. God is always there, but we don't always enter into His presence. This study is designed to help us refocus our love for God by seeing the example of Israel in Joshua 5.

### *Getting Started*

1. How was your week? Begin this small group by going around the circle to find out what's happened this week.
  
2. Who are some of the most important people in your life? Share one of the most memorable experiences you have had with them.

### *Digging Deeper*

Read Joshua 5. This is an interesting story about the preparation Israel needed to do before they entered the Promise Land. This generation had grown up seeing more miracles than any in recorded history. Everyday, there was a unique miracle God did in their midst, which, by definition, changed the laws of nature. They had a pillar of smoke to guide them by day, a pillar of fire to guide them at night, they were given food everyday by God's direct blessing, their clothes never wore out, and they were given water in an arid region; God's presence was very tangible. Still, throughout these forty years, the nation of Israel allowed their connection with God to slip. Through obedience, they were able to focus anew on God and the Lord finally took away the shame of their slavery in Egypt (v.14).

3. Remembering our lesson last week, why is it so natural for us to forget the relationship we have with God?
  
4. Imagine yourself as one of the children of Israel in the wilderness for 40 years, why do you think the entire culture forgot to circumcise their children.
  
5. On the anniversary of the Passover in Egypt, Israel celebrated the annual Passover feast. Given the refocus of their relationship with God, what are some ways the Passover at Gilgal would have been different than previous years?
  
6. Do all relationships have rules, whether said or unsaid? How do rules make relationships work? How does obedience to God's rules connect us in deeper relationship with Him?

### ***Bringing it Home***

Easter is coming up in a few weeks; it is the Christian Passover. Just as the children of Israel were able to enjoy their Passover because they refocused their commitment to God, we too, should take this time to refocus our relationship with Him before Easter.

7. What are some areas of your relationship with God which need refocusing? How has your devotions, prayer time, and solitude been with Him?
  
8. Are there other relationships, which you need to make a higher priority in your life? What are some actions you need to take to refocus?
  
9. Are there areas of disobedience which you need to get right in order to experience God in a deeper way? If you're able, share them with the group. If not, is there anyone in your life who can come alongside you to help you obey?