

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

IMAGE is Everything, Part 4

Questions written by Pastor Miles McPherson
September 30, 2007



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Would you like to lead your own small group? Talk to your Small Group Leader and contact Carolyn York at carolyn.york@therocksandiego.org or 619.764.5120.

Saturday, October 27 is Navy Day at Liberty Station and we are looking for a few individuals willing to volunteer at a Pancake Breakfast for active military and their families from 8-10 AM that day. This event is part of Fleet Week and the Rock would like to be part of the celebration of our military men and women. If you or your small group are interested in serving, please contact Susan Kennedy at susan.kennedy@therocksandiego.org or 619.764.5164.

New to the Rock Reception – If you're new to the Rock, join our pastors in the cafeteria of the Rock Church for fellowship, refreshments and Cold Stone ice cream. Happens every Sunday, 4-5 PM or Tuesday, 7-8 PM.

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. 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.rodgers@therocksandiego.org. May God work through your prayers mightily!

Reaching the Lost: Please pray that God would continue to draw the lost both to the Rock and our small groups.

Current Small Group Leaders/Small Groups: Pray that God would energize, strengthen and restart groups in the fall months.

Potential Small Group Leaders: Pray for the new small group leaders as they start leading their groups this month and next.

Small Group Staff: Pray that God would renew our strength and give us His vision for small groups as we begin our planning for 2008.

The Rock Body: Pray that we would take time to celebrate all that God has done in our midst.

MEMORY VERSE

Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; all things have become new. 2 Corinthians 5:17

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS – IMAGE CONSULTANT

Years ago when slavery was officially abolished in Jamaica, some of the slaves in remote areas did not know of their freedom. Years after their release had been announced they still continued to serve their masters, oblivious to the fact that they were legally free. Their owners kept the news from the slaves as long as possible, hoping to extract every ounce of work from their captives. The slaves wouldn't have had to put up with their drudgery, except for their ignorance of the facts.

The first step in fulfilling your God-given mission is to have a biblical understanding and believe your true identity in Jesus. Since the beginning of time, Satan has persuaded God's people into believing that they are not new creatures in Christ, but are still slaves to sin. Since Satan attacks the foundations of our identity, we all need a biblical counter attack to resist his lies.

Getting Started

1. If you were asked to describe yourself with one word, what would that be? How would your friends describe you?
2. How many of those descriptive words apply to your spiritual gifts or spiritual fruit in your life?

Digging Deeper

3. Individual Personality

- a. Take a closer look at the following verses and list the titles you have as a believer in Jesus: John 1:12, 1Corinthians 12:12, 1 Peter 2:9.
- b. Then read these verses and list the benefits of your relationship with Jesus Christ: Romans 5:1, John 3:16, 1 John 1:9, Ephesians 1:13-15.

4. Moral Mirror

- a. In Genesis 3:1-3, Satan tempted Eve to doubt by challenging what God _____ (fill in the blank). How could he tempt you in this way?
- b. According to Jeremiah 1:5, who established your identity and when did this take place?
- c. Read Matthew 4:4, 7, 10 and complete the following sentence. When your identity is challenged you simply need to trust what the _____ says.
- d. How reliable is this source for truth? (Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.)

5. Authority to Rule

- a. Read Ephesians 6:10 and complete this sentence: The _____ forces of _____ are your biggest enemy.
- b. Can the gates of hell prevail over you and God's plan for your life?
- c. Read 2 Corinthians 10:4 and complete this sentence: Your weapons are _____ not _____.
- d. Can Satan's influence overcome Jesus' influence in your life?
- e. Greater is he who is _____ than he who is in the world (1 John 4:4).

6. God's Friend

- a. According to James 4:4 and Jeremiah 2:4-5, what are people who are not loyal to God or serve multiple gods called? Why do you think the Bible uses such harsh words?

7. Eternal Spirit

- a. What kind of blessings do Ephesians 1:3 say have been set aside for you?
- b. When was your spiritual assignment established (Jeremiah 1:5)?

- c. Discuss the difference between a spiritual blessing and a natural blessing.

Bringing it Home

8. Since the foundation of the world, God has established a plan for your life. Your personal identity is designed to fulfill that plan. You were given gifts and talents especially designed for your role in God's Kingdom. One of Satan's goals is to get you to honor and worship him with those abilities. Can you identify one area of your identity that has been hijacked by Satan? Can you identify what he used to accomplish this attack? Finally, find one verse to commit to memory that will help you get back on track in fulfilling your purpose.
 - a. Example: I have been gifted to teach, but the devil has convinced me that I'm not a good communicator. Therefore, I'm not actively involved in teaching anyone to the degree I believe I have been called. Memory verse: Exodus 4:10-12.