

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

MY STORY: SINCE THEN

John 9:24-25

Pastor Miles McPherson – March 22, 2015

We are two weeks away from Easter (Resurrection) Sunday and closer to our salvation goal.

Pastor Miles reminded us, in the greater God-Scheme of things, it is not about us.

Also, he referenced in John 9:25 that we should not focus on the sin, rather the healing touch of God and salvation of Jesus on someone's life.

Pastor Miles continued to remind us about Gospel Central, a great tool that can help us share the Hope we've found in Jesus. If you haven't downloaded the app yet, as a LIFE Group take a few minutes right now and go to the App Store (iphone users) and download Gospel Central.



The Gospel Central
The Rock Church



If you don't have an iPhone you can go to the website www.GospelCentral.US

MEMORY VERSES

"One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!". John 9:25b

"For we live by faith, not by sight." 2 Corinthians 5:7

DISCUSSION STARTERS

Drew Breese, NFL Quarterback for the New Orleans Saints (and former Charger QB) joined Pastor Miles on Stage during the 6 pm service and shared his story. Drew mentioned that during his football career he has been told many times he couldn't do things – he was told he was too small to play QB in College, too small to play in the NFL, etc. However God had different plans for Drew, and God has used Drew over and over to prove the 'experts' wrong.

Think about your life – what are some of the things you have been told you can't do? How has this affected you or impacted you? Share a few of these things with your LIFE Group.

NOTE to LIFE Group leader – we'd like you to play a video for your group right now, if you have a TV/computer with Internet access that's great, or huddle around a cell phone. If for whatever reason you are unable to play this link for all to see, ask the group to view video at home.

Intro to video - There's a fast food company that some of us may know of, Chick-Fil-A. The Chick-fil-A Corporation's purpose is to "*Glorify God by being a faithful steward to all entrusted to them and to have a positive influence on all who come in their contact.*" A few years back Chick-fil-A made this short video we'd love for your LIFE Group to watch.



View Video and then Discuss:

Chick-fil-A File Video: "Every Life has a Story"

<http://www.cathyfamily.com/resources/videos/every-life-has-a-story.aspx>

Which story in the video caught your interest or attention. Why?

What makes someone else's story of interest to one of us?

When you read the ending line 'Every Life has a story... if we bother to read it' what do those words stir up inside you?

ACTIVITY + DISCUSSION

The Blind Experience

- Life Group Leaders – Ask for a volunteer.

In John 9, Jesus healed a man blind since birth. Either blindfold the volunteer or ask them to close their eyes. Have them walk around the room (with nobody leading or helping) for a few minutes, while sightless - intervene only to keep from hurting themselves.

Questions for the volunteer:

- What was it like being deprived of one of your most essential senses?
Was there any difference from the start compared to the end of the time without sight?
How did it feel to be able to see again?

Questions for the group:

- Did anyone feel like 'reaching out' to guide or help the volunteer?
How does this exercise relate to anyone with 'Spiritual blindness' ? (the unsaved)

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What have been some notable changes in your life since you became saved?
2. While many times we hear ***I WAS*** stories that include addiction, abuse, sexual and criminal activity – there are still many believers that have a testimony that doesn't include these things. How can God use someone with a somewhat uneventful story to connect with an unsaved friend who says "I'm already a good person".
3. Unlike the cursing usher Pastor Miles mentioned in his sermon, have others noticed the change in you as a new creation in Christ? Explain.
4. Sometimes well after we accept Christ in our lives and are saved we continue to experience life-changing encounters with God; share a time after salvation when the Lord brought about a dramatic change in your life.
5. **Read Matthew 25:14-30.** How do you feel this parable relates to our stories?
What investments do you feel you are making with your story?
How do you feel the Kingdom of Heaven is impacted?
What do you feel is the impact of hiding or not telling your story?



PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

1. The devil or enemy of our life does not want us to tell our Gospel story. Sometimes witnessing and telling your story can seem quite difficult and cause stress; pair up and pray for each other that the Lord would give courage and remove all anxiety blinders and fear.
2. Take a moment to pair up and practice your story.

TAKE IT HOME!

1. PRAY - Pray for the three people that you know need God's grace and salvation. Pray that God would open a door this week for you to share your story of hope.
2. PRACTICE - *Practice makes comfortable.* Take you're *My Story Template* and practice with someone or speak in a mirror. [And remain your authentic self in the story]
3. REVIEW - Review the Gospel ABC's.

Take some time this week to record your testimony on Gospel Central, you may be assisting a blind person to see Jesus and know about His love!



Once you've recorded your testimony on Gospel Central take a few minutes to link to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/SDRockGroups so others can be encouraged by what God is doing.

