

## **SAVE EQUIP SEND**

**NEVER TOO LATE, FEB 12 2017**

**THIS WEEK:** Pastor Miles interviewed singer Jordin Sparks, the 2007 American Idol winner. She shared her testimony and what salvation has meant to her in life and career.

### **Opening Discussion - Opening Questions:**

Jordin Sparks shared that she was way more nervous here on stage at church than when she sang in front of millions of people on TV. What do you do that makes you the most nervous?

After the interview, Jordin Sparks shared her amazing gift of voice in a closing song. What platform or gift has Jesus given you to glorify Him?

When Jordin first auditioned on American Idol, after the try-out, she was told "No, go home." She got a second chance later that season, and eventually won. She said, "When doors close, it is easier to see the open ones." If you could have a second chance to do something over, what would it be?

This week is the first of 3 weeks of Ministry Fair - where people can sign up to join the Rock Church's mission of Save, Equip, Send in any of well over 100 ministries.

What is your favorite excuse for not doing something God is calling you to do?

### **Read Mark 5:18-19**

How has God shown mercy on you?

If you just met someone, what would you share about a great thing God has done for you?

### **Group Activity -**

Pastor Miles was at an NFL outreach event where Jordin Sparks sang even though the back-up music failed to play. She sang so well, that Pastor Miles encouraged her go on American Idol - that gave her the idea to compete!

What can we do to unexpectedly encourage one another?

Jordin shared that she likes to be in control of things. When we try to be in control, we are not surrendering to God. What is the one thing you most like to have control over?

**Suggest forming into groups of 2 or 3 for these questions:**

When Jordin competed in the finals, 74 million votes were cast, both for and against her. Every day, the devil votes against us while Jesus votes *for* us. According to Pastor Miles, we "trip out" when 1 person talks behind our back or unfriends us.

Share an effective lie the enemy could use against you.

Share an effective truth Jesus could use about you.

While Jordin's professional life was having great success, her personal life was plummeting. There was parental separation, deaths and God was not in the center. Jordin was on a dark detour. She saw Pastor Miles at an event and felt guilt, shame and great discomfort. She tried to avoid him.

Who would you try avoid if you saw them when you were "off track?"

**Read Colossians 2:6-10**

What Biblical principles can be used to overcome the guilt, frustration, hopelessness, fear and shame associated with being on a personal detour from Christ?

**Going Deeper - Personal Challenge:**

When traveling to a destination, once we make a wrong turn, it takes at least the same amount of time to get back on the right way as it did to go in the wrong direction before turning around. Often, when we get off track in life, our guilt, fears, hopelessness and shame combine to keep us in a dark place with God no longer being at the center. But all we need is to turn to Jesus, and we can be immediately back on track. We are not defined by our past. What is holding you from getting right back on track and putting God closer to the center of your life?

**Taking it Home - Application:**

\* Pray about serving in a ministry, and sign up in the next 2 weeks.

\* Come to the Saturday morning prayer at any of the campuses. Pray to fight!

**LESSON QUOTES:** (from Pastor Miles)

"God can turn our mistakes into His plan."

"It is never too late to come back from being lost."

"Jesus does His best work when we are broken."

**LIFE GROUP PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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