SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS

"POT3NTIAL, Part 2"
January 21, 2009
Questions written by Danny Quimlat



ANNOUNCEMENTS

This fall we are kicking off a huge church wide campaign! The campaign is going to launch in late September and will lead right up the elections in November and will be a "full court press" for all Rock Church attendees. We will be having a marriage seminar, parenting workshops, relationships classes and guest speakers on Sunday along with Miles bringing the Word. The small groups department will have 3 different curriculums that will align with everything else the church is doing. We know that God desires us to be pursuing purity and holiness and our goal is that this campaign will continue the process with everyone that chooses to participate. We want to ask you to join us during this six week campaign by going through one of the 3 curriculums shown below. We are expecting great things to happen as we come together as the church united under one purpose.

Small Group leaders are you encouraging your group members to join the Rock Army? Your group can catch the vision of becoming a part of a movement that encourages people to become World-Class Christians. To join, check out the ARMY requirements at www.therocksandiego.org/army/

We want to encourage you and your group to take time to get out and serve in the community. This is a great opportunity for you to make a difference and connect with your small group. Give us a call if you need some ideas.

We also want to remind you to continue to submit your online reports. This is a great tool so you can communicate with us so we can answer any questions you have and be in prayer for you and your group. Keep up the good work.

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. May God work through your prayers mightily!

iProtect Marriage Campaign: Pray for our upcoming fall season. Pray that God provides the host homes for the groups we are going to start for the six week campaign and also for God to stretch us as a church as we pursue Him together.

Reaching the Lost: Pray that all the small groups continue to develop relationships with those who are far from God, and invite them to their small groups.

Current Small Group Leaders/Small Groups: Pray that all of our Small Groups take time to follow up on all the new people trying to get into small groups.

Potential Small Group Leaders: Pray that our current leaders continue to give their ministry away and develop future leaders to reach their full potential in Jesus.

The Rock Body: Pray that the Rock Army grows deeper and deeper in accountability to one another.

MEMORY VERSE

"His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!"

Matthew 25:23

SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS - "THE FINE LINE"

Getting Started

Share with the group a time when you let fear get the best of you. Perhaps you can describe a moment when you knew God was asking you to do something specific like share your testimony with someone particular or quit your job. Describe how or what your life would be like if you had no fears. Would you join the music industry? Perhaps, skydive? Would you tell your boss how you really feel?

Digging Deeper:

- 1. Read Matthew 25:14-18. In verse 15, notice that the man gave each person amounts of gold "according to their ability" to produce more gold. God never will give you more than you can handle according to your abilities as well. What are some of your God-given abilities that God may be asking you to use for His kingdom?
- 2. Read Matthew 25:19-23. When the man returns, one of the first things he does with each man is check their accounts to see what they've done with what he originally entrusted with them. The first two were able to double their gold. How does their master respond to them. What is their reward? What does this tell us about what we should expect in heaven when we are accounted for by God?
- 3. Read Matthew 25:24-30. The third servant is the one who seems to have fallen to fear. What did he do with what he had? And, why do you think he did what he did? Can you relate to him? The master seems to be offended by the servant's presumption of him. Why do you think this might have been offensive? Why do you think the master is upset at the servant?
- 4. Overall, what are the major lessons from this parable? We can infer from the passage that we are given rewards and punishments from our decisions and actions. What are they?

Bringing it Home

Interestingly enough, after Jesus tells this passage, he goes straight into another one in Matthew 25:31-46. When reading Scripture, it is always wise to not just read something individually, but to also read the surrounding passages in order to learn its proper context. What are the major themes in Matthew 25:31-46 and how do you think this is related to Matthew 25:14-30. Jesus seems to be making a very clear distinction and wants us to learn what He desires for our lives. What do you think Jesus is trying to teach us?