

# LIFE GROUPS

## 30th Anniversary

### INTRODUCTION

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**As your group time begins, use this section to introduce the topic of discussion.**

**ICE BREAKER QUESTION:** What things/events have you marked in your life that are worth remembering?

God created us with the intention that we would mark special events & times to remember, such as anniversaries, birthdays, & dates of death of our loved ones. Some things we remember to celebrate (birthdays, anniversaries), & others we remember because of the impact they had on our lives & the world (D-day, 9/11). As we look back on our lives & remember all these things, God's faithfulness shines because we are reminded our Rock is a firm foundation!

*"And God said, "Let there be lights in the vault of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years," (Genesis 1:14, NIV)*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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**1. What is your biggest takeaway from the Scripture and message this week?**

Please don't skip this question. It is a great indicator of where everyone's thoughts are at & a good way to evaluate our hearts.

**2. How has God used South Peoria Baptist Church in your life? How has God strengthened your faith through your Church?**

It is not a coincidence that God has brought you to South Peoria. Whether you have been here for years or just a few weeks, God's providential hand is working through your church for your good.

*"But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be." (1 Corinthians 12:18, NIV)*

God's plan is for your church to strengthen your faith as you strengthen the church.

*"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. In him the whole building is joined together and*

*risers to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:19–22, NIV)*

**3. Read [Psalm 18:2](#). Has God proven himself to be your Rock? How?**

God created us to be a people that look back in time over our lives and the lives of previous generations so we can see His faithfulness. He wants us to examine His faithfulness & see that His Word proves true.

**4. Read [Matthew 7:24-27](#). Jesus tells his followers how to build their lives on the Rock. How has this worked out in your life?**

Jesus says that putting His word into practice is how one builds their house on the rock. Hearing/reading The Word is one thing; putting it into practice is another. Spend some digging with this concept with questions like, “Why do we find it so hard to put The Word into practice?” or “What keeps us from putting The Word into practice” or “Is there something in your life that is at conflict with God’s Word & you are struggling to put it into practice?”

**5. We are all guilty of stepping off the rock into the shifting sands of this world. What is your life like when you step off the rock, and how has God placed you back on it?**

Don’t be afraid to ask for examples. Part of us building each other up on The Word is learning from the experiences of others. The temptation is to skim the surface with shallow answers & not share how God has worked in our lives. We all struggle with sin & stepping off the rock, but the emphasis of this question should bring us back to God’s redemption & how he picks us up & restores us when we repent of our sin.

**6. When we remember how God has been our rock our faith is strengthened. This gives us the courage to step out in faith in new ways. What are some things that God may be calling you to do that you can trust God with?**

God is constantly growing us & stretching us in our faith. The Christian walk is not plateau but a challenging climb that has us reaching for new heights through God’s sanctification. Part of looking back & celebrating God’s faithfulness is to equip us with faith that will respond with obedience when God challenges us with the next step of our walk. This question can be uncomfortable to answer out loud for believers because if they are struggling with God’s call, speaking it out loud to other believers will make it more real for them. Don’t rush to the next question if there is awkward silence when you ask this question; give people time to process. They may be finding the courage to share with the group. Be ok with not filling the silence; give people a chance to work through it.

**7. Read [Deuteronomy 32:28-33](#). Moses’ song is about God’s faithfulness to His people and the worlds corruptness and destruction. Christians often get caught up in the news of the shifting sands of this world and it causes anxiety and fear. Read verse 31, what confidence does this give us as believers?**

Close out with the encouragement of this verse. The world’s rock is not like our Rock! Our Rock cannot be moved; it is eternally faithful, all powerful, & secure. No matter how bad the world gets, we can stand on the Eternal Rock of our salvation!