

# A Pastor for Every Person! ROCK GROUPS

(Evangelistic Care Groups)

## PUTTING GOD FIRST

#### ICE BREAKER

Do you Facebook? Tweet? Instagram? LinkedIn? Pinterest?

Proverbs 3 6 In everything you do, PUT GOD FIRST ... TLB

Deuteronomy 4 <sup>29</sup> If...you will **seek**...and require **as necessity**... the Lord your God, you will find Him if you [truly] seek Him with **all** your **heart** [and **mind**] and **soul** and **life**. AMP

A helpful acrostic to remind us of some important areas to keep God first is:

Finances Integrity Relationships Schedule Talents

#### Finances

Matt 6 <sup>21</sup> Wherever your <u>treasure</u> is, <u>there</u> the desires of your heart will also be ...<sup>24</sup> "No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. *You cannot serve both God and money*...<sup>33</sup> Seek the Kingdom of God *above all else*, and *live righteously*... NLT

## Integrity

I Chron 29<sup>17</sup> I know, my God, that **you test the heart** and are **pleased** with **integrity** 

### Relationships

Matthew 22 <sup>37</sup> Jesus answered, "'<u>Love</u> the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and the most important commandment. <sup>39</sup> The second most important commandment is like it: '<u>Love your neighbor as you love yourself</u>.' <sub>GNT</sub>

Philippians 2 <sup>5</sup> In your *relationships* with one another, have the *same mindset* as *Jesus*... <sup>7</sup> ...He made himself nothing by taking the very nature of *a servant*...

How do we put God first in our finances? In our Integrity? In Relationships?

Which of these areas do you think is the most challenging for people?



Isaiah 26  $^9$  With my **soul have I desired thee in the**  $\underline{night}$ ; with my  $\underline{spirit}$  within me will  $\underline{I \ seek \ thee \ early}$ ...

Ps 63 <sup>1</sup> O God, thou art my God; *early will I seek thee*: my soul thirsteth for thee ... <sup>6</sup> I *remember* thee *upon my bed*, and meditate on thee in the *night* watches.

Luke 6:12,22:39 Jesus went to *pray*..., as was His *habit*, to the Mount of Olives, and *the disciples also followed Him*.

What does "putting God first" in your schedule mean to you?

Describe the "ideal" day of putting God first in your schedule? (realistically)

What are your biggest challenges in doing this?

#### **T**alents

1 Peter 4 <sup>10</sup> As each of you has received a *gift* (a particular spiritual *talent*, a *gracious divine endowment*), *use it to serve one another*.. AMP/ESV

1 Timothy 4 14 **Do not neglect the gift you have...** 

What does it mean to "put God first" with our talents?

Do you feel like your talents are being fully used for God? Why or why not?

. . . . . . . . . . . . .

Romans 12 says <sup>3</sup> Be *honest* in your *evaluation of yourselves*... NLT

Let's take a moment, privately, to honestly evaluate ourselves and ask the Holy Spirit to show us any area we need to give God greater priority.

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Let's *pray* in groups of three or four that God would help us to *always put Him first in everything we do*.

#### REMEMBER...

- ✓ Share Vision of COTR and Rock Groups
- ✓ Prayer/Ministry Time
- ✓ "Empty Chair" Prayer. *Invite* someone new!
- ✓ Pray for COTR Leadership
- ✓ Have everyone complete attendance sheet
- Complete the <u>online report</u> and <u>attendance</u> for the meeting soon