

Rock Solid Huddle Group Guide: Get Started Steps and Best Practices

Rock Solid Grad,

Congratulations! If you are reading this, then you are contemplating your next faithful step towards staying in a strong, authentic community after your nine-month Rock Solid journey. You are exactly where you should be. This next step will be monumental in your Kingdom leadership growth. You might be excited. Maybe uncertain. Sometimes fostering a new community isn't an easy task. So, we're here to make it less complicated. Our hope is that these initial steps and best practices will create some early momentum to set your Huddle Group up for success.

What is a Huddle Group: A Huddle Group is a subset of the larger Rock Solid group who continue to meet on a regular basis not only to sustain the Rock Solid experience, but to take their leadership to the next level. While the intent is for each Huddle Group to have its distinct personality, most Huddle Groups will use their time to discuss and reflect more deeply on the various topics introduced in the Rock Solid journey, along with supporting and praying for each other in specific ways. Huddle Groups are designed to be organic in their formation. Any Rock Solid grad is empowered to rally and launch a group.

What to Expect from Lead With Your Life: Our heart is to inspire leaders to create and exist in an authentic community after Rock Solid. The style and shape of this community may look different for every leader. However, we want to inspire them into it. This is why we lean a bit heavier on the inspiration side than the content side. Our hope is to provide some key initial steps and share a few resources (refer to "Rock Solid Huddle Group Guide: Resource Options") that can help your group get off the ground. We have found that after going through an initial book or similar content, a group typically finds a natural rhythm and can maintain from there. You are more prepared than you realize!

1. <u>Basic role assignments are important</u>. There is usually a natural "initiator" of the group. This individual will need to take on some of the initial groundwork (i.e., initial facilitation, content, coordinating meeting rhythms, etc.). After these initial items are established, it is helpful to provide the other leaders with some basic roles. This is important as they now experience some ownership and contribution to the group. For example, each gathering, somebody new could be responsible for kicking off the



discussion of the chapter you read. After your initial book or content is complete, have a group discussion about what topic or book you pursue next. Each leader will feel more motivated to engage it if they have a voice in it.

- 2. <u>Consistency is crucial</u>. It is important to agree on a basic schedule that your group will commit to. We recommend monthly when first starting. This allows for proper scheduling without worrying that you are asking too much from each other. We've found that an ideal group size is typically around four to five. This helps with aligning schedules and also preserves adequate discussion time for each person during your meetings.
- 3. <u>Discuss your why.</u> It is important to discuss this early. This discussion sets the tone for the way forward and allows each leader to be honest about their need for community and share what they hope to experience in this space. Rock Solid themes such as "spiritual disciplines", "vulnerability" and "accountability" should be discussed early and create an anticipation of where you are headed.
- 4. Make it personal. Be intentional about having personal check-ins and calling audibles occasionally. Don't be afraid of putting aside the assigned content on a given week. Sometimes there are things happening in our world and our personal lives that we need to discuss with fellow Kingdom leaders. This can be an awesome space for these conversations as your group grows together. The genuine support that can be received in this space is immeasurable to your life and leadership. The goal is not to make this a book club, but to do life together in brotherhood. One of the best ways to keep your group together for an extended period is to create gatherings outside of your normal meeting times such as life celebrations, dinner at each other's homes, weekend trips, etc. While this will be up to each group to determine what feels right, this is crucial to the longevity of the group.
- 5. <u>Protect it</u>. You've created it. You're experiencing it. Now protect it. This should always remain a safe space to show up honestly about the highs and lows of Kingdom leadership. Protect confidentiality. Hold each other accountable and confront each other out of love. Hear all perspectives. Pursue truth. Most importantly, keep Scripture as your ultimate authority and encouragement.

We are so excited that you are on the verge of this next faithful step and we are always praying for the Kingdom leaders that are on mission alongside us. Please feel free to drop us a note with testimonials and reports as you experience the richness of doing life alongside other Kingdom leaders. You can contact us at: <u>HuddleGroups@leadwithyourlife.com</u>

