

### The Level is Nov Deek and the Stronghold of Nov Life

# The Lord Is My Rock and the Stronghold of My Life

Nina Schaafsma, January 18, 2021 Small Group Discussion Questions

#### **Getting Started**

Take some time to catch up and connect as a group. Pray before discussion. Expect God to move through your time together!

#### **Pacing Your Group**

Move quickly through "observation" leaving enough time for "reflection", "discussion", and "surrender."

#### **Scripture Reading**

Re-read the scripture passages as needed when you discuss the questions.

## Observation: What does this scripture passage say?

Take some time to look up and read Ephesians 1:1-14

1. We have been blessed with "every spiritual blessing in Christ". What are these blessings?

# Reflection and Discussion: What are some first thoughts flowing from the scriptures? Talk together about how the scriptures connect to everyday life.

- 2. What stands out to you from this message? What is getting your attention?
- 3. Grace is God's voluntary and loving favor given to those he saves. We can't earn salvation, nor do we deserve it. No religious, intellectual, or moral effort can gain it, because it comes only from God's mercy and love. To receive God's grace, we must acknowledge that we cannot save ourselves, that only God can save us, and that our only way to receive this loving favor is through faith in Christ.
- How did God make his "amazing Grace" known to you? What is your salvation story?
- 4. The Holy Spirit is God's seal that we belong to him and his deposit guaranteeing that he will do what he has promised. The Holy Spirit is like a down payment, a deposit, a validating signature on the contract. The presence of the Holy Spirit in us demonstrates the genuineness of our faith, proves that we are God's children, and secures eternal life for us. His power works in us to transform us now, and what we experience now is a taste of the total change we will experience in eternity.
- Describe your experience of the Holy Spirit in you.

#### Surrender: Responding to God's voice.

- 5. What is one thing God is saying to you through this study and discussion?
  - \*\* Take some time to pray for one another in response to what has been discussed today \*\*