

SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE

THE RIPPLE EFFECT CHAD BRUEGMAN SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

If you would like to watch the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

LEADER

You go first:

- Introduce yourself.
- How did you first find RPC, and how long have you been coming?
- What's a fun fact about you?

Have everyone introduce themselves using the same questions.

Go over the Small Groups Covenant. Be sure to start and end your group on time!

MESSAGE RECAP

In week one of our two week *Ripple Effect* series, we explored how one small act of faith can create an impact far beyond what we see. Chad reminded us, through Paul's words in Philippians, that joy is deeply connected to partnership—when we come together with open hands and open hearts, God uses our time, talents, and resources to bless others.

Generosity isn't just about giving money—it's a way of living that brings joy to God and us. As we begin this series, we're invited to consider where God might be nudging us to be more open-handed, knowing that when we partner with Him and others, the ripple effect can make a lasting difference.

WARM-UP QUESTION

- What's a small decision that accidentally created a big "ripple" in your week? (*Funny answers welcome—fantasy football counts.* 😊)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share about someone whose kindness had a ripple effect in your life?
2. Read Philippians 1:3–6. Paul links **joy** to **partnership**. Where have you experienced more joy because you did something *with* others, not alone?
3. Read Philippians 4:15–19. What do you notice about Paul's tone around giving ("credited to your account," "pleasing to God," "God will meet all your needs")? How is this different from guilt-based giving?
4. "God meets our needs, not our greed." How can you tell the difference between a true need and just a want in everyday life?

5. Where do you sense God nudging you to open your hands and partner with others—through serving, sharing resources, using your talents, or giving?
 6. Alyssa's Make-A-Wish became a well that still blesses others. What part of her story stood out to you—and why?
 7. If God “credits” generosity to our account (Phil. 4:17), what kind of legacy do you hope your life is quietly building?
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APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- What's one open-handed step you can take this month—through your time, skills, encouragement, hospitality, or finances?
 - Joy audit: Rate your current joy (1–10). Share one small habit this week that could nudge that number up (prayer walk, no-phone dinner, worship playlist, serve someone).
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CLOSING PRAYER

Your closing prayer can include:

1. **Gratitude** – *Thank God for past ripples of grace.*
 2. **Acknowledgment of new insights** – *We are grateful for the wisdom You have given us today. Help it take root in our hearts.*
 3. **Request for guidance** – *As we go into our week, help us walk open-handed, being a light in the dark world. Pray Philippians 1:6 over the group: that He who began a good work will carry it on. Amen.*
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LEADERS: TWO THINGS!

1. Please take attendance and follow up with anyone who did not attend this week.
2. **Global Serve Day is Saturday, September 13 from 8am to 12pm.** It's a simple and fun way for your group to come together, be a light in our community, and make a tangible difference in someone's life. Serve Day is open to all ages and is a family-friendly event. Sign up at <https://rock.rpc.me/page/1103/rpcservedaysept2025>