

SERIES DISCUSSION GUIDE



THE LOCKER ROOM | BEFORE THE SNAP
CHAD HEROLD
SEPTEMBER 27, 2026

To view the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

WELCOME & CONNECTION

Last week, we talked about how God can use our stories to impact others. You were invited to reflect on three positive and three difficult experiences that have shaped who you are today.

LEADERS: Go first! Share your story, including how God has worked in your life. Then invite group members to share as they feel comfortable. Some may be still processing their story, and that's okay. Allow time for this opening, but not everyone needs to share their story in one meeting. This can be an ongoing conversation throughout the semester.

A simple place to start:

- What are three positive and three difficult experiences that have shaped who you are today? Where have you seen God at work in your story?

MESSAGE RECAP

In week 3 of *The Locker Room*, we were reminded that every team needs a leader, and the church is no different. Jesus is the head of the church. He is the One who gives direction, vision, and reminds us of the game plan. We gather not simply to enjoy a good speaker, song, or experience, but to worship God for who He is and what He has done. We gather to encounter God, grow in His truth through Scripture, and allow God's Word to transform us as we live out our faith. The church service isn't the finish line; it's the huddle before we step onto the field and live for Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. We may come to church looking forward to our favorite worship song, singer, or pastor, or needing encouragement after a difficult week. While these are all good things, God invites us into something greater, an encounter with Him as the focus of our worship. What are some reasons people come to church? How might our expectations shape the way we approach worship?
 - How might worshiping God for who He is before asking for what we need change the way you approach worship or prayer?
2. **Read 2 Timothy 3:16-17.** The message compared the Bible to a team's playbook.
 - How might knowing that Scripture comes from God change what you turn to for guidance? When might it replace books, podcasts, or social media as your first source?
 - According to these verses, what is Scripture useful for?
3. **Read 2 Timothy 4:3-4.** What warning does Paul give Timothy in these verses?
 - How might this warning apply to us today? (*Our preferences, comfort, opinions, success, other people, etc.*) What does having “itching ears” look like in our lives today?
 - What tends to keep you from spending time in the Bible?
4. Chad compared the Holy Spirit to the voice guiding a quarterback through his helmet. We have God's Word to prepare us, and the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us as we live out our faith.
 - How does knowing that the Holy Spirit is with us change the way we approach everyday decisions or challenges?
5. The message compared our church gathering to a locker room before stepping onto the field. What is one thing from tonight's discussion or Sunday's message that you can put into practice this week?

APPLICATION QUESTION *(This section is designed to invite group members to reflect on and do on their own.)*

1. This week, choose one of the passages from today's discussion and spend time reading it aloud. As you read, reflect on these questions:
 - What does this teach me about God?
 - Is there something I need to change, begin or stop?
 - What is one step I can take to live this out?

LEADERS: Night of Worship & Prayer is Thursday, October 1st at 7pm! Invite your group and sit together. It's an opportunity to pause and worship Him together.

Baptism will be on Sunday, October 18 after all services! Encourage people to sign up (rpc.me/baptism or westend.me/baptism) and plan to come and support them! Baptism is a great next step of obedience for someone to grow in their relationship with Jesus. You don't have to be a member of RPC|WE to be baptized.

CLOSE IN PRAYER