

R.O.P.E.

Companion Book

Notes, Questions, & Exercises



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We learn the ropes of life
by untying its knots.

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Session One Notes

Main Take Away:

Points to Ponder:

Application Ideas:

Just R.O.P.E. It!

Discussion Questions

1. What can you do with a rope?
2. How did Paul use rope in Acts 27?
3. How can R.O.P.E undergird your life? Ministry?
4. What attributes make rope useful? What about R.O.P.E?
5. Why do people have trouble turning talk into action?
6. Why do people have trouble turning ideas into reality?
7. How can R.O.P.E. unite your team?
8. How can R.O.P.E accelerate your progress?
9. Why are the best tools user friendly? How does R.O.P.E qualify?
10. How will it feel to master the skill of turning “oh no” into “oh yeah!”?

Group Exercises

Do a brief SWOT analysis for your congregation (or leadership team).

S = Strengths

W = Weaknesses

O = Opportunities

T = Threats

Rank (prioritize) your list. Choose one problem (threat) and one possibility (opportunity) to work on during the next four R.O.P.E. sessions. Keep the rest of the list and schedule monthly or quarterly rope sessions (Ad Hoc meetings) to address them in the coming year.

Session Two Notes

Main Take Away:

Points to Ponder:

Application Ideas:

R = Results (R.O.P.E.)

Discussion Questions

1. Why is crystal clear better than kind of clear in ministry?
2. Why is vagueness the enemy of success?
3. How do assumptions lead to failure?
4. Why must you define success to achieve it?
5. How could getting clearer help your marriage?
6. How could more clarity help your spiritual growth?
7. How did Paul use specificity to help troubled churches?
8. Why can due diligence sometimes feel like overkill?
9. How can slowing down help us go faster?
10. Why do we fail to get clear? How can we do better?

Group Exercises

Get in groups and describe your dream outcome in one of these areas:

- A problem you want to solve.
- A trait or habit you want to develop.
- A project you want to accomplish.

Session Three Notes

Main Take Away:

Points to Ponder:

Application Ideas:

O = Options (R.O.P.E.)

Discussion Questions

1. Why is it a big mistake to shut down debate prematurely?
2. Why is the best idea seldom the first?
3. What does Proverbs 27.17 teach about maturity and courage?
4. How is brainstorming a virtuous tempest?
5. Why is idea-generation a mark of successful people?
6. What is the leader's role in brainstorming?
7. How does judgment disrupt brainstorming?
8. How can nostalgia disrupt brainstorming?
9. Why is a healthy team more meritocracy than aristocracy?
10. How does imagination power glorify God (Ephesians 3.20)?

Group Exercises

Break into groups and brainstorm options for one of the following:

- Increasing worship attendance (AM or PM).
- Getting more elders or deacons.
- Getting members to read their Bibles.
- Making visitors feel welcome.

Session Four Notes

Main Take Away:

Points to Powder:

Application Ideas:

P = Plans (R.O.P.E.)

Discussion Questions

1. What is the definition of a plan?
2. Why is planning critical to timely, consistent progress?
3. Why is abundance a byproduct of wise planning? (Proverbs 21.5)
4. What is the secret to wise planning? (Proverbs 21.5)
5. What is diligence? What is due diligence?
6. Why do people fail to adequately plan?
7. How can carelessness cause more failure than adversity?
8. Why is attention to detail a difference maker?
9. Why are most failures due to faulty assumptions?
10. How can you attack your to-do list strategically?

Group Exercises

Break into groups and make a simple plan for one of the following:

- Onboarding new members
- Visiting church members
- Encouraging new Christians
- Supporting those who are restored

Session Five Notes

Main Take Away:

Points to Ponder:

Application Ideas:

E = Execution (R.O.P.E.)

Discussion Questions

1. Why is timely execution critical to top performance?
2. Why is it important to track steadily toward goals?
3. Name two results of poor execution.
4. Name two results of excellent execution.
5. How is success a step-by-step process?
6. Why is it important to move briskly as well as wisely?
7. What is the danger of waiting for perfect timing or solutions?
8. What are benefits of asking, “What is the next faithful step?”
9. What are executive abilities? Name some.
10. Why prioritize and sequence steps on your path?

Group Exercises

Make a list of ways to get unstuck when you have trouble executing.

Rope Categories

The best part about R.O.P.E. is that you can use it in every area of your life. Below you will find seven life-categories for your consideration (the biggies). On the following page, in column one, describe one goal you would like to accomplish in each area over the next year. In column two, write down options for creating the outcome you desire and circle one that inspires you. In column three, make a simple plan with specific steps to get the ball rolling. In column four, identify and schedule your next faithful step to move forward. Remember, life is not a mystery. Your character and circumstances are a result of thought, effort, and consequence. R.O.P.E. will help you think with purpose and act with passion.

7 Essentials for a Life Well Lived

Faith - Your spiritual life comes first and provides the foundation for all the rest.

Family - Prioritize this above work or play. Don't neglect your greatest treasure.

Fitness - You cannot ignore your health without compromising your future.

Finances - Solvency, savings, and independence are stages of human growth.

Friends - Nothing makes life richer than true friends with whom to share it.

Fun - Leave room for recreation. Your soul needs this as well as your body.

Fruit - What short-term goal or long-term legacy would make you feel fruitful?

Personal Life Worksheet

R.O.P.E.	Results	Options	Plans	Execution
Faith				
Family				
Fitness				
Finances				
Friends				
Fun				
Fruit				
Other				

Spiritual Growth Worksheet

R.O.P.E.	Results	Options	Plans	Execution
Praying				
Studying				
Worship				
Serving				
Giving				
Outreach				
Attitude				
Speech				
Integrity				

With R.O.P.E. You can
Build a bridge to the future
Or climb a ladder to the top.