



JUDGES CHAPTER 7 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What is one of your biggest accomplishments that you never thought you would be able to do?
- How have you seen God work in your life in a way or ways(s) that hasn't/haven't made sense to you initially?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Judges 7:1-25)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU INTRODUCE SOME OF THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE BOOK OF JUDGES AND THE JUDGES CYCLE WITH YOUR GROUP.**

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Judges 7:1-4

- Why is it somewhat surprising that God tells Gideon to reduce the number of men that he is going to take into battle, especially knowing what we know about Gideon and how he views himself?
 - Gideon already viewed himself as extremely weak and was surprised that God was using someone like him so we would expect for God to give him more confidence by giving him this great army with which he could more fully believe that he could defeat Midian. However, it is the exact opposite

and God commands Gideon to reduce the number of men that he takes with him.

- Read the following passages, Isaiah 55:9 and 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. How do these passages fit into what God has told Gideon about the number of men being too great?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- The word “boast” in verse 2 is frequently used in the Old Testament to describe how worthy God is to receive glory over and above human beings.
 - In what ways do you need to pay attention to the glory of God rather than paying more attention to what you bring to the table?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
 - In what ways is God pleading with you to more fully rely on His resources rather than your own?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Judges 7:5-12

- Notice in verses 9-11 that God is still willing to provide Gideon with confirmation and affirmation that He will be with him and his army and that they will be able to defeat Midian.
 - When you think about your walk with God, in what ways do you tangibly sense God’s presence with you? How has God given you both confirmation and affirmation to do something specific for Him and/or continue to walk with Him?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Judges 7:13-25

- What is different about the “weapons” that Gideon and his men take into battle and why is this significant?

- Gideon and his men do not take swords, spears, and things like this into battle. Rather, they take trumpets, torches, and jars. God always uses unconventional methods and weak people to accomplish His will and provide victory.
 - What “weapons” do you typically use to address problems and issues that you face?
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
 - What weapons has God given you? Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.
 - This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.
- God definitely removed all reasons for Israel to boast in themselves in His deliverance of them from the hands of Midian. Consider the following questions this week in light of God’s deliverance.
 - How can you more fully boast in God and what He has given to you rather than yourself?
 - How can you more fully use the resources and “weapons” that God has given you to address problems and situations in your life?
 - In what ways would your life look different if you more fully relied on God’s deliverance rather than your own? What decisions can and will you make in order for this to happen?
 - These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don’t forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time

- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (Judges Chapter 8)



JUDGES CHAPTER 7 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

- What is one of your biggest accomplishments that you never thought you would be able to do?
- How have you seen God work in your life in a way or ways(s) that hasn't/haven't made sense to you initially?

Judges 7:1-4

- Why is it somewhat surprising that God tells Gideon to reduce the number of men that he is going to take into battle, especially knowing what we know about Gideon and how he views himself?
 - Read the following passages, Isaiah 55:9 and 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. How do these passages fit into what God has told Gideon about the number of men being too great?
 - The word “boast” in verse 2 is frequently used in the Old Testament to describe how worthy God is to receive glory over and above human beings.
 - In what ways do you need to pay attention to the glory of God rather than paying more attention to what you bring to the table?
 - In what ways is God pleading with you to more fully rely on His resources rather than your own?

Judges 7:5-12

- Notice in verses 9-11 that God is still willing to provide Gideon with confirmation and affirmation that He will be with him and his army and that they will be able to defeat Midian.

- When you think about your walk with God, in what ways do you tangibly sense God's presence with you? How has God given you both confirmation and affirmation to do something specific for Him and/or continue to walk with Him?

Judges 7:13-25

- What is different about the "weapons" that Gideon and his men take into battle and why is this significant?
 - Gideon and his men do not take swords, spears, and things like this into battle. Rather, they take trumpets, torches, and jars. God always uses unconventional methods and weak people to accomplish His will and provide victory.
 - What "weapons" do you typically use to address problems and issues that you face?
 - What weapons has God given you? Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.

- God definitely removed all reasons for Israel to boast in themselves in His deliverance of them from the hands of Midian. Consider the following questions this week in light of God's deliverance.
 - How can you more fully boast in God and what He has given to you rather than yourself?
 - How can you more fully use the resources and "weapons" that God has given you to address problems and situations in your life?
 - In what ways would your life look different if you more fully relied on God's deliverance rather than your own? What decisions can and will you make in order for this to happen?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
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