

May 6, 2018 Gideon and the Midianites

For the Facilitator - During the week before the meeting, review the story and the questions. Do an internet search on any issues you might anticipate. Even if you are not telling the story, know it well enough to share. Make sure you are maintaining your own walk with the Lord. Make personal contact with at least one person in your group this week.

Open in Prayer and Welcome/Introductions

Remind the group of DiscipleGroup Guidelines (Confidentiality, Don't Rescue Don't Fix, No Crosstalk, Use Humor Responsibly, Give Everyone a Chance to Share, Use "I" Statements.)

DISCIPLEMAKER QUESTIONS

- Last week we looked at Gideon's testing of God. Are there any more thoughts on that story?
- How are your relational investments going?

Ask a "hook question" to get the group going.

- What's the best underdog story you've ever heard?

Share background for the story.

This week we will look at another story about Gideon, as he follows God's leadership.

Tell the story with your Bible open on your lap – Judges 7:1-23. This week's story is about how God used Gideon to defeat the Midianites.

Group members rebuild the story one piece at a time.

Read Judges 7:1-23 out loud. Were there any important details left out of the telling or retelling of the story?

Discuss these questions:

1. What do you learn about God in this story?
2. What do you learn about the characters in the story?
3. Do you know someone who was considered weak but were used by God?
4. Have you ever had a battle so big in your life that the only way to fight it was to totally trust in God?
5. What did you learn from the victory of Gideon about faith, obedience and God's blessings, and how should this change your life?

Ask someone to retell the story.

Assign next week's passage. Judges 11:29-40. Jephthah's Daughter. This is a heavy story. You might want to ask someone ahead of time to consider learning the story. Encourage the group to study the story well before the next meeting.

Close in Prayer.