

Judges Week 3: Small Group Discussion Questions

- 1). Was there anything in the homework or teaching that you have questions about or that stood out? Discuss these with your group.
- 2). Gideon asked for 3 signs and God graciously offered him a 4th. Why then should we not ask for signs as well? (Hint, look up Matthew 4:5-7). What does it teach us about God that he gave Gideon the signs he asked for anyway?
- 3). God took great care to address the heart idolatry of the Israelites by sending the prophet and then having Gideon tear down the altar to Baal. Why do you think God did this now instead of with previous Judges? Can you think of times you have focused on external actions or circumstances when you needed to address your heart?
- 4). It took great faith to go into battle with only 300 men against such a huge army, armed with a torch and a trumpet. All that mattered though was that God was with them! Nobody would have looked at that situation and imagined how God would achieve victory. Does God lead us to do what seems impossible as well? What does he ask all Christians to do? Do we believe he is with us and will equip us to what he calls us to?
- 5). Gideon wrestled with fear, and he also ended poorly. Yet he is listed in Hebrews 11 as a man commended for his faith. What do you think about this? Look at Hebrews 11. What were some of the flaws of other people listed there? (There are some big ones!) Do you ever feel like your own flaws would stop God from using you? How does Hebrews 11 give us encouragement when we look at our own flaws, no matter how large or small they seem?
- 6). Gideon told the Israelites he would not be their King because God was their king. Then he immediately began acting the way a king would act. What do you think caused this change in him, after following the Lord fully into battle? What are ways we do the same thing? Do you have things in your life that try to pull you from following the Lord fully? Or do you need to repent of having actions that don't match your words?
- 7). We see that at the end of this section, the Israelites need saving from themselves. It didn't take an outside force to destroy them. Do you think this was a sudden development, or had they always been their own worst enemy? How does this point to the need for Christ? What did Jesus come to save us from- an outside oppressor? Or something greater gripping our hearts? Have you trusted him to save you?