

Small Group Discussion Questions

Series: When We Decide

Speaker: Jay Haugh

Message: Victory, Reward & Unexpected Delights

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Memory Verse: Judges 2:16-17 NIV

Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the Lord's commands.

The goal of these questions is to foster meaningful discussion and to encourage participants to reflect on God's Word and lead to heart transformation. Feel free to modify or expand upon these questions based on the dynamics and needs of your Small Group.

Big Idea: There is victory, rewards, delight, and life for the one who lays their life down for the glory of God.

Read Judges 1:1-18

1. As we enter the book of Judges, Israel is leaving an era where they were led by Moses and then Joshua. Both of these men were very prominent leaders. Have you ever experienced a time when a mentor, leader, or stabilizing person stepped away or was no longer in your life? How did that impact your faith? Why is the fact that God persists, regardless of circumstance, so important in our walk with Him?
2. When Joshua died, Israel's first step was to ask God who their next leader would be (v 1). When you face uncertainty or transitions, what tends to be your first response? Is it prayer, planning, avoidance, or something else? In what ways would you like to lean more on God in these moments?
3. Judah, considered to be the strongest tribe, invites Simeon, one of the weakest, to go with them (v 3). How does this demonstrate God's heart and



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His design for community? Who has God placed around you that may need your strength right now? How can you support or walk alongside them this week?

4. Adoni-bezek, one of God's enemies, had his thumbs and big toes cut off (v 6). This was something that was often done to an enemy because it rendered him useless as a warrior. What are some strategies we can adopt or put in place so our spiritual enemies are less effective?
5. What stands out to you in Adoni-bezek's reflection, "As I have done, so God has repaid me" (v 6)? How do you respond to the idea that God judges sin and brings retribution on evil? Does that comfort you, challenge you, or both? How does the truth that God judges sin point us to our need for grace and forgiveness in Christ?
6. Kiriath-Sepher was known as a city of pagan knowledge, but after being conquered, it was renamed "Debir" (v 11), a word meaning "The Word." Where do you feel called to bring God's Word and truth into areas that currently oppose Him? How can we best do this in ways so that we are received well instead of kept at a distance?
7. What does Achsah's boldness in asking for a blessing (v 15) reveal about her view of her father? Matthew 7:11 says God gives "good gifts" to those who ask Him. How might our view of God affect how, or whether, we ask Him for things?
8. This passage shows one enemy stronghold after another falling to God's people. These places of great shame were transformed by God. Is there an area of your life or heart that God is calling you to surrender so He can transform it? How has God turned something shameful in your life into an example of His faithfulness?



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