

FUSION Q's... Gideon Part 3: Glory Hogs

Discussion Theme: God's Ways are Unexpected

Purpose of Discussion: to help students understand that God desires to fight for them, but that first, they must trust him, and second, his methods are almost always not what we're expecting.

1. Discussion Starter...

- Name your favourite famous person. Why are they famous, and why is he/she your favourite?

2. Read Judges 7:1-8 (p.149)

3. Discussing the text

- Why was Gideon calling the people to join him?
- How many men showed up to begin with?
- What did God want Gideon to do with the 32000?
- What methods did God use to get the number of men down to 300?
- What was God's reason for sending most of the soldiers home?

4. Redirection

Our culture is full of glory hunters. Everywhere we go, we see people trying to become famous, or seeking glory from others for their accomplishments, or taking credit for things to build themselves up, or desiring people to praise them for their bodies. It seems that peoples' praises and approval matter a lot to us. What if no one was able to take the full credit for anything? What if God stepped in and showed everyone that all the things they have accomplished, all the glory they are seeking and even their own body shapes belonged to him?

In the gospel of John, Jesus says very plainly that apart from him we can do NOTHING. That's a pretty BIG statement. The following Scripture reading and questions are meant to engage you in a discussion of what it would look like if we started seeking God's glory instead of our own, and seeking his help the way he chooses rather than how we expect him to help us.

5. Digging Deeper

Read John 15:4-5 (p.648)

- What stood out to you tonight from the talk?
- For some reason, we like to take credit for things (seek our own glory) rather than give credit to God (give him glory). Why do you think this is?
- Talk about some areas where you have achieved some success. What role did God play in these successes?
- God gave Gideon a massive task but promised him that he would be with him. Gideon must have been getting very worried about what God was up to, but continued to trust him. Talk about some things that seem really big or overwhelming to you right now. What would it look like to trust God with these big things?
- What does it look like when we don't trust God to care of things in our lives?
- What should you do if God doesn't do things in the timing or in the way you expect him to?