



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Remember that Life Groups are a place where we practice what is preached. We discuss the Bible for transformation, not just information.



Icebreaker: What is something that you regularly try to avoid doing or put off until the last minute?



PRAY:

Pray together for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to behold wonderful things (Ps. 119:18) as your group meets with the Lord.



READ:

Ask a group member to read **Judges 4**. Consider having multiple people read the passage.



DISCUSS:

Judges 4 shows us that when God calls us to something we should not be passive in our response, but instead answer the call. What does the passage teach us about the difference between waiting on God and resisting what God has called us to do?



IDENTITY:

Judges 4 provides a beautiful picture of how God can use different people in different roles to fulfill His purposes. How does our shared identity in Christ help us recognize, value, and encourage the ways God works through both men and women?

WORSHIP



What are things that Judges 4 reminds us about God that make Him worthy to be trusted even when obedience feels risky?

COMMUNITY

Judges 4 shows us the danger of embracing spiritual passivity. How can we help one another be the sort of people who are active in our faith and not passive?

MISSION

How can remembering that God is already at work help us to take initiative in His mission?



GROUP ENGAGE:

Jesus invites anyone and everyone to follow Him, and we get to extend that invitation to others. As a group, try this idea to engage in the mission of God or come up with your own.

Idols often leave people burdened, anxious, isolated, or exhausted. As a group, choose one way to serve people who may be experiencing those burdens. Look for a practical opportunity to bring encouragement, prayer, hospitality, or help in the name of Jesus and pick a date or time now to make it a reality.

WE ARE FAMILY:

How can you hold each other accountable to respond to God this week?

Share prayer requests (either as a group, or as partners/smaller groups)

VALUE SPOTLIGHT:

TRUTH | That which communicates the reality of God

Judges reminds us that self-rule feels freeing, but it leads to destruction. True life is found under the rule of God.



SERIES OVERVIEW:

Who's the ruler of your life? The Bible points to only two possible answers: God or self. The book of Judges warns us about the dangers of self-rule. Again and again, we see God's people try to rule their lives through idolatry, passivity, fear, and corruption. Their example proves that our lives will eventually unravel when we trust ourselves instead of God. Many of us are prone to that same self-reliance, but God remains faithful and patient. As we walk through this Old Testament book, we'll see that it ultimately points to a Savior who redeems our lives when we trust in Him.

July 12

Judges 2:6 - 23

Big Idea: Keep yourself from idols
Key Question: What are the signs of a compromised faith?

- Compromised faith forgets God's greatness. (2:6-10)
- Compromised forgets God's ways. (2:11-19)
- Compromised faces God's discipline. (2:20-23)

July 19

Judges 4:1 - 5:31

Big Idea: Passivity holds us back from fulfilling God's purpose.
Key Question: How can we move from hesitation to faithful action?

- Notice the cost of inaction. (vv. 1-3)
- Answer the call of God. (vv. 4-16)
- Celebrate the victory of God. (vv. 4:17-5:31)

July 26

Judges 6:1 - 35

Big Idea: Fear of others rules you until God does.
Key Question: How can we weaken the fear of others in our lives?

- Hear God's rebuke. (vv. 1-10)
- Hold onto God's presence. (vv.11-24)
- Honor God above others. (vv.25-35)

August 2

Judges 6:4 - 22

Big Idea: Unrepentant sin always costs more than it provides.
Key Question: In what condition does unrepentant sin leave us?

- Disarmed. (vv. 4-5)
- Deceived. (vv. 6-18)
- Devastated. (vv. 19- 22)