



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's something you thought you could get away with when you were younger, but didn't?



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 16:4 - 22**.



DISCUSS:

Samson's story reminds us that sin rarely stays small. Left unchecked, it grows until it controls us. How does confession help keep sin from taking root in our lives?



IDENTITY:

How does remembering who you are in Christ give you the freedom to confess sin instead of hiding it?

WORSHIP

What does Samson's life teach us about what happens when something becomes more important to us than God?

COMMUNITY



James 5:16 calls us to confess our sins to one another. Why is honest confession so difficult? How can biblical community help us fight sin together?

MISSION

Lifeway's Transformational Discipleship Survey found that people who regularly confess struggles and sin are more likely to share their faith. Why do you think this might be the case?



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:



Goodness | That which displays the character of God.

As we turn from sin and trust Christ, His goodness changes us so that we increasingly reflect His character to others.



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)