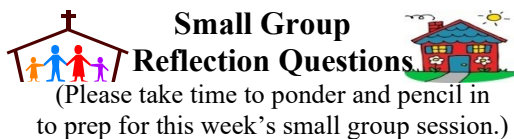


Message Outline

Gideon—Part 2

Judges 8



Small Group

Reflection Questions

(Please take time to ponder and pencil in to prep for this week's small group session.)

Intro: Judges: life in dysfunctional days!

- Last week, a record setter!!!
 - A word about idols, asking God for signs, and God's unique battle plans...
- Today, Gideon's downfall...

Read: Judges 7:22-8:34

7:22-23—Initial decisive victory, but needing to keep up the pursuit and enlist others...

v.24-25-8:3—Ephraim's role...

- Heated critique met by gentle/tactful response (cf. Prov.15:1)...

v.4—"faint yet pursuing:" bodily care...

v.5-9—Fatigue, frustration, and fighting words...far cry from the tact in v.2-3!

v.10-12—Another victory over the oppressive enemy...

v.13-17—Turning to fight his own people?!!

v.18-21—Gideon taking spoils...not good!

v.22-23—Right words...

v.24-25—Wrong actions...

- Claims to not want to be king but then taxes like a king and acts like a king (cf. v.30)...

v.26—Small things add up!!! Earrings into 43lbs of gold!

v.27—The trap of Gideon's wealth (1Tim6:10).

- The one who began smashing idols (6:25ff.) now creating idols...

Lessons from Gideon's Life—Part 2

1) _____ Prov.18:21

- Words cut paths for actions...
- Where Gideon's words started to go wayward (7:18)...subtle spotlight of pride.

2) _____ 8:24-27

- Little things that add up to big things...earrings to idolatry!
- Looking into the "little things" of our life...

**Group leader explains Small Group Goals and Ground Rules...*

AND

**Group leader explains The Chosen series...*

**Group Games!!!*

**What's your all-time favorite movie?*

**Top 10 List (or NOT Top 10): List 10 things that happened to you since last we met as a group...*

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)
- 5)
- 6)
- 7)
- 8)
- 9)
- 10)

**Prayer requests...*