
A Year in the Word

A Year in the Word: Part 20

Small Group Questions: A Reluctant Hero

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Read

Judges 6:1–16, Judges 7:1–7; and Judges 8:28

Reflect

In Judges 6, the Lord punishes the Israelites for the evil they've done in his sight, by handing them over to the Midianites. Although living in the Promised Land, this generation does not know God like their parents and grandparents. Near starvation, they desperately call out to God for rescue. And the Lord calls Gideon to be their hero. What is your definition of a hero? *Who* would you call a hero?

Pastor Josh Surratt and Lisa Surratt highlight what the story of Gideon can teach us about heroes:

1. Teach our kids to know the real hero.
 - a. Ask your children who they consider to be a hero, and why.
 - b. Growing up, how did your family deal with times of trial? How big of a part did God play?
 - i. For good or bad, is your own family following in those same footsteps? How is it different? How could it improve?
 - c. Would your children say they need God in their lives?
 - d. Have you ever felt an unparalleled closeness to God during a hard season? If so, why do you think that is?
2. Heroes are often discovered in the mundane.
 - a. Gideon is threshing wheat—separating the grain from the chaff—a mundane task. Yet, the angel calls him a mighty warrior. Why do you think God chooses to call him that before he's done anything of major significance?
 - b. How has God shown up in the mundane things of your life?
 - i. Do you look for him in the everyday tasks?
3. Even heroes have questions.
 - a. When the angel tells Gideon that God is with him, he questions it. When have you questioned God's presence in your life? Have you ever felt that God abandoned you? Explain.
 - b. How do you think God feels about us asking questions? Are you leaving him room to answer? When have you jumped to your own conclusions and found them to be wrong?
4. A hero's weakness is often the key to unlock God's power.
 - a. When God says he's going to send Gideon out, what reasons does Gideon give that he's not the man for the job?
 - b. How does God's reply make all the difference?
 - c. Why does God lessen the number of warriors Gideon is to take with him?
 - d. What do you need God's help in removing from your life, so you don't take it into your next season?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?