



Small Group Questions

Part 2: Dangers of Success

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Read

Joshua 6, 7 and 8; Proverbs 16:14; Matthew 6:33; Colossians 2:13–14

Reflect

The Israelites conquer Jericho in a great military victory. Then, their attention turns to Ai, where spies suggest no more than 3,000 soldiers are needed to defeat the city. But the Israelites are routed and thirty-six soldiers are killed. Why does God allow this to happen?

Pastor Josh Surratt gives us some warnings for how the thrill of victory can turn into the agony of defeat:

1. Overestimate my own ability.
 - a. When has your world changed for the worse suddenly and you knew it was related to poor choices you've made?
 - b. Are you taking God's favor for granted?
 - i. How is your prayer life?
 - c. How might you be overestimating your own ability?
2. Underestimate the consequences of my sin.
 - a. Are there temptations/areas of sin in your life that seemed minor, but prove life altering and destructive?
 - i. How have you dealt with them?

How can you get ready for a turnaround Tuesday?

1. Restart the conversation with God.
 - a. When a situation goes badly, who will you go to first?
 - b. What walls have you built up around your heart to prevent being hurt again?
 - c. Will you choose to forgive? Have you asked for forgiveness?
2. Discover the root of the problem.
 - a. Have you identified your tendencies or areas of weakness, so you can be vigilant against giving the enemy a foothold?
 - b. What lies are you believing? How have they hurt your relationships?
 - c. Is there something deeper going on beneath the behavior?
3. Ruthlessly deal with the sin.
 - a. Who in your life will hold you accountable?
 - b. What solution(s) can you apply to the problem right now and in the long-term?

There is victory on the other side of this. Do you believe this? Do you know that you have been forgiven, but can still short-change yourself of the freedom God wants to give you? Will you let God continue the great plans he has for your life?

Respond

What is your next step? Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you and hold you accountable in this?