

## FINDING SIGNIFICANCE

### Difference Makers – Part 1

#### 1. Discover your **IDENTITY**.

*“11b Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. 12 The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said, ‘Mighty hero, the LORD is with you!’” Judges 6:11b-12*

- **What Doesn’t Work:** Looking at your **CIRCUMSTANCES** to try to figure out who you are.
- **The Right Choice to Determine your Identity:** **LISTEN** to what God says about you.

**KEY QUESTION:** Is your life being determined by **YOUR VIEW** of you or how others view you or by **GOD’S VIEW** of you?

#### 2. Decide your **ACTIVITY**.

*“13 ‘Sir,’ Gideon replied, ‘if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn’t they say, ‘The LORD brought us up out of Egypt’? But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites.’ 14 Then the LORD turned to him and said, ‘Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!’” Judges 6:13-14*

- **What Doesn’t Work:** Is waiting for **STRENGTH** that you don’t have.
- **The Right Choice to Acting in Faith:** You **GO** in the strength that you do have.

#### 3. Determine your **CAPACITY**.

- **What Doesn’t Work:** Is **RELYING** on our own resources.
- **The Right Choice to using your Resources:** Watch God use your **WEAKNESSES**.

*“The LORD said to Gideon, ‘You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength.’” Judges 7:2*

#### **THE PROCESS GOD USES IN A FAITH JOURNEY:**

*“So, David defeated the Philistine with only a sling and a stone.” 1 Samuel 17:50a*

*“9 ‘Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?’ 11 ...Jesus then took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted. He did the same with the fish.” John 6:9, 11*

*“The LORD told Gideon, ‘With these 300 men I will rescue you and give you victory over the Midianites. Send all the others home.’” Judges 7:7*

1. God **REDUCES** our resources.
2. God **MAGNIFIES** our need.
3. Someone **TRUSTS** God with what little they have.
4. God uses the little we have to show how **GREAT** He is.

**KEY TRUTH:** My strength tends to **PULL ME AWAY** from God’s strength. But my weakness tends to **DRAW ME TOWARDS** God’s strength.

*“9 My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ 10 Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me... For when I am weak, then I am strong.” 2 Corinthians 12:9-10*

*“7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us. 8 We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair; 9 persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.” 2 Corinthians 4:7-9*

#### 5. God works through us to accomplish **HIS WILL**.

*“15 But Lord,’ Gideon replied, ‘how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!’ 16a The LORD said to him, ‘I will be with you.’” Judges 6:15-16a*