

Life Group Guide: Unstuck, Part 2

Overview

This week's sermon continued the series "Unstuck" using the story of Gideon in Judges 6. The message explored how God calls ordinary, reluctant people into extraordinary purposes, how faulty perspectives about God can keep us stuck, and how breaking cycles of compromise — beginning in our own homes — is essential to experiencing freedom and moving forward in faith.

Key Takeaways

- God sees more in you than your present circumstances say about you.
 - Do not let your circumstances rewrite God's character. He is the same before, during, and after your hardest seasons.
 - God is not waiting for you to be confident in yourself. He is calling you to be confident in him.
 - Before God deals with what is around you, he may need to deal with what is within you.
 - Obedience does not require fearlessness. Do it afraid.
 - One person's bold step of faith can create a ripple effect that gets an entire family unstuck.
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Warm-Up Question

Think of a time you felt genuinely stuck — in a situation, a habit, a mindset, or a relationship. Without going too deep yet, what did that feeling of being stuck actually feel like day to day?

Discussion Questions

Section 1: Faulty Perspectives on God

In Judges 6:13, Gideon questions whether God has truly abandoned Israel, even while the angel of the Lord is sitting right in front of him. The sermon pointed out that the evidence of God's presence was right there, even in Gideon's lowest moment.

1. Have you ever looked back on a difficult season and realized God was closer than you thought at the time? What kept you from seeing it clearly while you were in it?

2. The sermon asked: "Have I been basing God's character and his goodness on my own present circumstances?" How does this tendency show up in everyday life? What does it look and sound like?
 3. Israel had already received an answer from God through the prophet before Gideon even asked his question. Have there been times when God had already spoken to an area of your life, but you were still asking "Why, God?" What made it hard to receive what he had already said?
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Section 2: God Confidence vs. Self-Confidence

In Judges 6:15, Gideon lists his qualifications for why he is the wrong person for the job. The sermon made the point that God was not looking for an impressive resume. He was looking for a humble yes.

4. The sermon said: "God isn't waiting for you to be confident in you. He's calling you to be confident in him." What is the practical difference between those two things in your daily life?
 5. Have you ever talked yourself out of something God was calling you to because you focused on what you lacked? What happened, and what do you wish you had done differently?
 6. Why do you think God consistently chooses people who feel unqualified? What does that pattern tell us about how God works and what he values?
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Section 3: Tearing Down the Altar

In Judges 6:25-27, God tells Gideon to tear down his father's altar to Baal before sending him out to lead Israel. The sermon emphasized that Midian was the symptom. The deeper issue was a lordship problem inside the home.

7. The sermon described syncretism as trying to worship God while also giving another area of life to something else. What are some modern examples of syncretism that you see in your own life or in the broader culture?
 8. God told Gideon to deal with what was inside his own home before confronting the enemy on the outside. Is there something in your personal life or family life that God may be asking you to address before he moves you forward? You do not have to share specifics, but sit with the question honestly.
 9. The sermon noted that Gideon did what God asked at night, quietly, even while afraid. What does it look like to obey God when it is inconvenient, when others might not understand, or when you are still afraid?
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Section 4: The Ripple Effect

When Gideon tore down the altar, his father Joash, whose altar it was, ended up taking a public stand for righteousness. One act of obedience changed the direction of his father.

10. The sermon shared the story of a young woman's baptism inspiring her aunt to step forward and give her life to Christ. Have you ever witnessed one person's step of faith move someone else toward God? What did that look like?
11. What would it mean for you to be the Gideon in your family — the one who decides a generational cycle ends here? What would that require of you practically?

Practical Applications

Choose one or more of the following to put into practice this week:

- **Identify the altar.** Spend time in prayer asking God honestly: "Is there anything in my life or my home that has taken your place?" Write down what comes to mind and bring it back to God in surrender.
- **Do it afraid.** Is there one step of obedience you have been putting off because you do not feel ready? Take that step this week, even if the fear is still present.
- **Have the conversation.** If God is prompting you to address something in your family or home, ask him for the right words and the right moment, and then follow through.
- **Build the altar.** Tearing something down is only half the instruction. God also told Gideon to build an altar to him in its place. Consider what it looks like to actively build a new spiritual rhythm or practice in your home — prayer at the table, worship in the car, Scripture on the wall, or a regular family conversation about faith.
- **Declare it out loud.** The sermon closed with a corporate declaration: "Jesus is Lord." This week, say it out loud in your home, in your car, or at the start of your day. Let your own ears hear your own confession.

Closing Prayer Focus

Close your group time by praying specifically over these areas:

- Any cycles of compromise that group members are ready to break
- Families where one person is standing for righteousness and needs courage
- Anyone who is still wrestling with giving Jesus full lordship over their life
- The peace of God — Jehovah Shalom — to settle over every heart before circumstances change