

Life Group Questions and Message Notes

1. What habit or habits did you start last week? How did it go?
2. What is your identity? How do you see yourself? How does God see you?
3. What does God need to tear down in your character so He can build it up?

Habits: Identity Based Habits

Pastor Kerry Shook – January 17th, 2021

“The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, ‘The LORD is with you, mighty warrior.’”

Judges 6:11-12 (NIV)

1. GOD TEARS DOWN OUR FEARS TO BUILD UP OUR FAITH

“The LORD turned to him and said, ‘Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?’ ‘Pardon me, my lord,’ Gideon replied, ‘but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.’ The LORD answered, ‘I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive.’”

Judges 6:14-16 (NIV)

“That night the LORD told Gideon, ‘Take your father’s bull and another bull seven years old, tear down your father’s altar to Baal, and cut down the symbol of the goddess Asherah, which is beside it. Build a well-constructed altar to the LORD your God on top of this mound. Then take the second bull and burn it whole as an offering, using for firewood the symbol of Asherah you have cut down.’ So Gideon took ten of his servants and did what the LORD had told him. He was too afraid of his family and the people in town to do it by day, so he did it at night.”

Judges 6:25-27 (GNT)

“Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the LORD means safety.”

Proverbs 29:25 (NLT)

2. GOD TEARS DOWN OUR PRIDE SO WE CAN BE FILLED WITH HIS POWER

“The LORD said to Gideon, ‘You have too many men. I cannot deliver Midian into their hands, or Israel would boast against Me, ‘My own strength has saved me.’ Now announce to the army, ‘Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.’ So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.”

Judges 7:2-3 (NIV)

“The LORD said to Gideon, ‘With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the others go home.’” Judges 7:7 (NIV)

3. GOD TEARS DOWN OUR DOUBTS TO BUILD UP OUR CONFIDENCE

“That night, GOD told Gideon: ‘Get up and go down to the camp. I’ve given it to you. If you have any doubts about going down, go down with Purah your armor bearer; when you hear what they’re saying, you’ll be bold and confident.’” Judges 7:9-11 (MSG)

“The three companies blew the trumpets and smashed the jars. Grasping the torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow, they shouted, ‘A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!’ While each man held his position around the camp, all the Midianites ran, crying out as they fled.” Judges 7:20-21 (NIV)

“But He also turns deserts into pools of water, the dry land into springs of water.” Psalm 107:35 (NLT)