

# GROUP DISCUSSION

Questions for facilitating dynamic discussion

## Against All Odds

Week of June 30, 2019

Week 4: **Courage** (Jeff Griffin, Senior Pastor)

Text: **Judges 7:8-22**

Gideon was freaking out. You would have been too! His tiny army of 300 soldiers was about to wage war against a massive force of 135,000 Midianites. God had a plan to address Gideon's anxiety. God's plan was unusual and unexpected, but it worked! If we learn what Gideon learned, we too will be instilled with supernatural courage in the battles we face.

**Kicking it off:** Today's passage is about a barley loaf, so let's talk about bread! If you visited a bakery, what would you be drawn to most?

### Discussion:

1. Reread *Judges 7:9-11* During that night the LORD said to Gideon, "Get up, go down against the camp, because I am going to give it into your hands. If you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with your servant Purah and listen to what they are saying. Afterward, you will be encouraged to attack the camp."

What does this passage tell us about God?

2. In verse 10, God instructs Gideon to take Purah with him. Come up with possible explanations as to why God recommended Purah. Who would be by your side in a time of need?

3. Reread *Judges 7:13a* Gideon arrived just as a man was telling a friend his dream.

How does this verse demonstrate God's sovereignty?

4. Does God's sovereignty give you peace of heart? If so, how?

5. Reread *Judges 7:13b* "I had a dream," he was saying. "A round loaf of barley bread came tumbling into the Midianite camp. It struck the tent with such force that the tent overturned and collapsed."

Has God ever spoken to you through a dream? If you are willing, tell the group about it.

6. Reread *Judges 7:14-15* His friend responded, "This can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon son of Joash, the Israelite. God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands." When Gideon heard the dream and its interpretation, he bowed down and worshiped.

Why did Gideon worship at this moment?

7. Verse 14 quotes a promise of God found in the Midianite's dream interpretation. The promise was very meaningful to Gideon. Can you think of any biblical promises that encourage you in times of difficulty?

**Wrapping It Up:** Pray that God would meet you in your days of difficulty and make you strong and courageous as He did for Gideon.