

## **SERIES: Running With the Giants: Week 03**

### **Week 03: Gideon**

Take a few moments to check in —

During this extended COVID season, what's been your go-to show on Hulu, Netflix, Amazon Prime, or whatever streaming service you use? [NOTE: The author of these questions is a huge Cobra Kai fan!]

Discussion Questions:

[1] Why do you think we love cheering for the underdog? Can you think of any great underdog stories, either in the movies or in real life?

[2] What's your story — have you ever felt like an underdog?

[3] Read Judges 6:1-13 together, then discuss —

If you were Gideon, how might you have felt being called a “mighty warrior” when everything was going wrong? Have you ever felt the way Gideon was feeling?

[4] What's hard about watching people make decisions that you know will take them down a frustrating path? If you were God, how would you feel about the choices you see humanity making?

[5] Read 1st Peter 5:6-7 together. It says, “Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.”

Why don't we “pray first” more often when facing difficulties? What do most people usually do when they're hurting or struggling or overwhelmed?

[6] Ok, this one is fairly personal, but I really hope some of you will be courageous enough to share with your group —

What are some of the specific, hurtful voices or lies of the enemy or even shame over past mistakes that keep you from being the “mighty warrior” God invites you to be?

[7] Read Judges 6:14-16 together, then discuss —

Pastor Steve said, “God won’t ask you to do anything he doesn’t first give you the ability to carry out.” Why is this such encouraging news?

[8] Tim Keller defines an idol as “anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek with the hope it will give you what only God can give.” What are some modern-day idols, and why is it essential for us to have the occasional “demo day?”

[9] There’s so much detail in Gideon’s story — the fleeces, the whittling down of the army, the confusion of the Midianites in battle, and more. Take a moment to read Judges 7:19-21 together, then discuss —

Just as Gideon experienced an “only God could have done this” situation, what are currently facing that requires God to do what only he can do?

Wrap-Up:

As you close, pray for one another and ask God to give each of you what is needed to be mighty warriors. Invite God to intervene in our circumstances and ask him to do what only he can do, so that he might receive all the honor and praise.