

Judges

Guide to Godly Living despite being in a Pluralistic Idolatrous Society

Study 2

Gideon leads to victory

Judges 7:1-25

Case Study 1

Khor Rou Na has been a Christian for 20 years. She says she is a sinner and does not have many skills that allow her to serve in the ministry. She says she is unfit to be a leader because she has many weaknesses.

1. Discussion question. What would you say to Rou Na? You may use Gideon's story or 2 Corinthians 12:7-9 to help you.

Case Study 1

Rou Na also reveals that she struggles with sin in her life and has trouble stopping her addiction of smoking and porn. Her family is also a mess, she cannot control her children. Therefore, she cannot serve.

2. Discussion question. Would you still advise Rou Na in the same way?

3. Reflection question. How does this principle shed light on how God has worked in your life? (cf. 2 Cor.12:7-9). What do you tend to "boast" in?

You may wish to share specific cases of how a loss or experience of weakness led to

a) salvation,

b) or growth.

2 Corinthians 12:7-9

or because of these surpassingly great revelations. Therefore, in order to keep me from becoming conceited, I was given a thorn in my flesh, a messenger of Satan, to torment me. Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

4. Reflection Question. Where are you feeling "outnumbered"? or in need of some intervention?

How can you:

- a) accept the limits God has given you, and**
- b) accept that 'God's power is made perfect in weakness'?**

Can you ask the group to join you in your "battle" by praying for you?

This question might lead members to share sensitive topics, so be quick to listen and slow to speak or "fix" one another.

There are an infinite number of possible answers to this question. But consider the following. When we face trouble, we often try extremely hard to change the circumstances or we pray to God to have it removed, when God wants to use the trouble to deepen our character so that we can "escape" it by becoming able to "endure" it (cf. 1 Cor.10:13).

We fail to see that the limits God has given us (as in Gideon's case) may be the only way for us to reach our potential spiritually.

1 Corinthians 10:13

No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted,[c] he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.