



The Proof Is In The Pudding

Against All Odds, Judges 6-7

September 26, 2021

Community Group Discussion Questions

PLEASE READ BEFORE LEADING DISCUSSION

- Recommended questions are highlighted in bold, but select 5 or 6 questions you think will work best for your group discussion. You likely won't have time to discuss all of the questions so choose which questions you will ask ahead of time and make sure to provide plenty of time to focus on the application questions.
- Feel free to edit or reword questions to best fit your group.
- You may want to print out copies of this document for everyone so they can follow along with the questions as you read them.
- Check out this Facilitation Guide (<http://bit.ly/CGFacilitationGuide>) for tips on leading good discussions.

ICEBREAKER (5-10 Minutes)

1. Share your name and answer the following question:
 - What is something true about you that others might have a hard time believing?

OPENING THE DISCUSSION (5-10 Minutes) – Have someone recap the message in about a minute or two and then ask the following questions:

2. What scripture, stories, or ideas from Sunday's message did you find most helpful or convicting?

DIGGING DEEPER (10 Minutes) – ask everyone to follow along in their Bible or Bible app. You might consider looking up these passages online and sharing your screen to review them together.

3. Read Judges 6:1-18.
 - What stands out to you from this story?
4. Israel failed to trust God because of the oppression of the nations around them.
 - What are some fears in our society that make it hard for us to trust God?
5. Reread Judges 6:13-18. Gideon questioned God's presence, his capabilities, and if God was really speaking to him.
 - Like Gideon, what things cause us to doubt or question God?
6. Read Judges 6:36-40. In this passage, Gideon asked God to prove what He said would come true.
 - When God makes a promise, why do we struggle to take His word for it?
 - In what ways do we ask God to prove it today?
7. Read John 14:26-27.
 - How does the Holy Spirit's presence with us help us overcome our fears?

APPLYING IT (10-20 Minutes)

8. What is something you fear or are concerned about that makes it hard to trust God?
9. Where do you need to obey God in spite of your fear?

GROWTH GOALS: ([Print Growth Goal Forms or share the link online](#))

10. What is a next step in your faith you want to take this year? Our Open Baptism service is happening next month. If you have unbaptized group members, getting baptized would be a great goal of them to set this trimester.

If this is your first meeting, catch up, enjoy a meal together, take some time to review plans for the Community Group trimester, and review the goals of Community Groups.

POSSIBLE ICEBREAKER

1. **What was your favorite memory or moment from this past Summer?**

COMMUNITY GROUP OVERVIEW

2. **Review ABC's: Purpose of Community Groups:** Apply the Bible, Build Relationships, Care for Each Other
3. **Review Group Agreement:** <http://bit.ly/CGAgreement> (See below). Read and ask if anyone has any questions.
4. **Discuss Volunteer Schedule for snacks, childcare, hosting, and facilitation.** Bring a preassigned volunteer schedule if possible: www.NorthridgeLeaders.com/volunteer-schedule-template
 - o Other potential volunteer roles include: Sending weekly emails, Organizing socials or serving projects, tracking prayer requests
5. **Discuss starting and ending time and trimester schedule.**
 - o Group trimester goes from September 19 – November 20 (9 Weeks)
 - o Let's honor each other by starting on time and agreeing about how to handle the ending time. Generally it is best to have a hard ending but let people know they can stay to hang out afterwards.
6. **Explain how a normal Community Group night will look for those who are new to groups.**
 - o Social time (10-20 minutes)
 - o Ice Breaker (10 minutes)
 - o Sermon Discussion (30-40 minutes)
 - o Group Prayer Time, Usually in gendered groups (30-45 minutes)
 - o Hangout/Head home
7. **Plan to collect and share contact information for group members**

GROUP AGREEMENT

1. **I will make this 9-week group trimester a priority by attending weekly and participating openly in group discussion. I will call ahead if I am going to be absent or late.**
2. **I will strive to build authentic relationships with those in this group by showing care, providing encouragement and praying for their needs. I will keep anything that is shared strictly confidential and within the group.**
3. **I will regularly attend services at Northridge and contribute to the ministry of the church through my attendance and inviting of others with a desire to see this group multiply down the road.**
4. **I will explore honestly my next steps for spiritual growth.**