

Series: Renegades

Message: Gideon—Seeing Beyond the Circumstance

May 27, 2012

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**A renegade does not settle for average or the common but goes against the norm in pursuit of God's best.**

**Lessons from Gideon, the reluctant renegade:**

**God hears you when you call out.**

Judges 6:6 Matt 11:28-30 Matt 12:20

**Believe in who God says you are.**

Judges 6:11-12 ; 16

**God will do the uncommon through you.**

Judges 6:36; Judges 7:1-8

**People will follow your lead out of the average to God's best.** Judges 7:17

**God controls the outcomes.**

Judges 7:2, Mark 4:40-41; Ecc 3:11; Job37:23

**My intentional momentum:**

Father I believe I am who you say I am. I believe you will do what you say you will do in your word. I believe I am created by you to live beyond the average. I will courageously lead others in following you in the very best life you have created for us.

## NEXT STEPS

To prepare for this week's life group, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group.

### My Story

Has there been a time in your life when you knew God's will but were afraid to follow it? What was it that made you fearful?

### Digging deeper

Read Judges 6:25-32 How did the towns people respond to Gideon's obedience to God?

How did Gideon's father respond to the people?

Have you ever met opposition when you where obedient to God?

Joshua is another person who was in a similar situation as Gideon. In Joshua 1:6-9 and Deuteronomy 31:7-8, what words of encouragement do Moses and God give to Joshua that you think could also help others deal with their fears?

Jesus tells us that He will be with us always in Matthew 28:19-20. How could the ongoing knowledge of God's constant presence make a difference in our attitude or actions in stepping away from the average?

It's comforting to know that "God always meets us where we are" but He also doesn't want us to stay there. What help do the following verses give us to enjoy God's acceptance and patience without becoming complacent?

Hebrews 5:11-13

Psalms 103:13-14

James 4:17

## **THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS**

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen.

### **SHARE**

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal, as we feel more comfortable.

### **STUDY**

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's message or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Faith in Christ in everyday life.

### **SUPPORT**

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

### **SERVE**

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.