



Sermon Discussion Guide

Sermon Title - Tim Knipp
October 10, 2021

Leader Preparation

1. Take some time to look over these questions ahead of time. Choose the ones that you want to make sure you cover with your group. We have highlighted what we think are **key ideas/questions by bolding them.**
2. Pray for your group and your time together as you prepare. This is so helpful!
3. When meeting online you as the leader will need to be more directive than in person. Don't be afraid to invite everyone to answer a question, invite them to share by name, and thank them when they finish. The online format requires a little more intentional orchestrating than an in-person group.
4. Try to start the gathering by getting everyone talking at least once to begin. The Hook section is great for this. When in doubt, have people share stories about their past. (How the week was, favorite memories about the topic for the day, etc). This is a great way to help your group continue to get to know one another.
5. Next, look at the Scripture and what it means. We believe Jesus is discipling people through this Word. Get people into the Scriptures and the Scriptures into people!
6. Finally, end with what God is saying to people and how God is inviting them to respond. These aren't just ideas to know but realities to live in!



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Hook - Getting to know one another

- How is everyone doing this week? This could also be an icebreaker question related to the topic for discussion.
- 1. When was a time when you were facing a challenging situation that seemed impossible to get out of?
- 2. How much of a risk-taker are you? When facing risky situations, do jump in with both feet, run, freeze?

Book - Scripture

- Read the scripture, and discuss a few questions to understand **what the text is saying**.

Read Judges 4:1-16 and 5:1-23

1. These two passages describe the same story, but in different forms. Compile a list of details that we learn about this story from both passages.
 - a. **Leaders:** Notice particularly that the Israelites were severely unequipped for this battle compared to the Sisera's army.
2. Who are the major players (people) in this story and what do we learn about them?
3. How does God respond to the people's cry for help?

Look - Connections to our world today

- This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.
- 1. Once again, the Israelites have turned away from God. What is significant about God still choosing to help them?
- 2. God partners with Deborah and Barak to save Israel, what are some of the ways they show faithful leadership?



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3. Barak shows hesitancy in doing what God asks of him at first, why do you think he hesitates and how does God redeem this situation?
4. Looking at this story, what do we learn about what it means to trust God when facing challenging situations?

Took - Personal Application

- This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.
1. What battles and situations are you facing today that you need God's help in?
 2. On a scale of 1-10, how much trust do you have that God can provide in seemingly impossible situations?
 3. What are some specific things that you can do to grow your trust?

Time of Prayer