

# LEAD SHEET

## LIFE IS NOT A GAME : WEEK 2 THE BATTLE

March 19, 2017

### **FAITH SKILL:**

### **WORSHIP WITH YOUR LIFE**

If you want to know God better, give back to Him!

### **GETTING STARTED**

- What is your life about? Why do you think you were put on the earth?
- Who are some people in your life who you think are good leaders?
- What makes a good leader?

**A lot of people are floating through life, thinking of it kind of like a game. The whole idea behind this lesson (and series of lessons) is that life is NOT a game, but is instead a God-given life that exists for a reason.**

**Today, we're going to talk about what it means to be a leader, even in the face of incredible odds. It's my hope for you that you will be inspired to lead others, too.**

### **DIGGING IN**

#### **Read Judges 7:1-3**

So Gideon is called into battle, but in an unusual way.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

1. How many men start in Gideon's army? (22,000.)
2. God wants to make his army smaller. Who does He say can be dismissed to their homes? (Those who are scared.)
3. How many people are left in Gideon's army after God makes this exception? (10,000.)

## **Read Judges 7:4-8**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What does God say about the army? (*It's still too large.*)
2. In what way does He eliminate more warriors from the army? (*By how they drink water.*)
3. By the time it's all said and done, how many men does Gideon have with him in battle? (*300.*)

## **Read Judges 7:9-22**

So Gideon goes and scopes out the camp, and hears about a dream that one of the Midianites has. He splits his army into three groups of 100, and, just as the dream indicated, God delivers Midian into the hands of the army of Gideon.

What happens is a great miracle, but I want to re-visit one verse that you may have missed.

## **Re-read Judges 7:17**

In my opinion, this may be the most important verse of the text. Gideon says, "Follow my lead." It took a lot of courage to do that, courage that didn't make any sense. They were outnumbered. Gideon's army had only 300 men. The Midianites likely numbered in the ten-thousands. They never should have won! But God delivered them.

But he did it through a great leader in Gideon.

Sometimes I think we look more like Midian than Gideon.

As the church, we turn on ourselves. We're defeated, clueless, and terrified. We don't really trust God, we float from day to day, event to event, trusting in our own strength and minds. Sometimes we just float through life: getting dressed, turning on noise around us, putting on a show, trying to impress everyone we come into contact with. Are you playing a game? Life's not a game.

## **MAKING IT REAL**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Honestly, if given the choice, how many of you would've left that army before the battle ever began? Why or why not?

2. Why do you think Gideon was okay with what God asked him to do? Would you have been if you were Gideon? Why or why not?
3. What are some ways Gideon challenges the people to follow him in Judges 7:17?
4. How might that be similar to how we lead people today?
5. If people “did what you did,” would they be living for God or against Him?

## **Read Ephesians 6:12**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. In what ways would you agree that life is a battle?
2. What does this verse say we battle against?
3. With whom do you personally battle?
4. Do you think you are winning or losing this battle?
5. Are you leading anyone else into battle with you? Do you expect to win?

I think God is calling all of us to a battle—not to the playing of a game. One of our purposes in life is to courageously follow Christ. This may mean some battles, but we should be able to stand up like Gideon and say what he said in Judges 7:17, “Follow my lead. Do what I do.”

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

Pray your group lives in a way that people admire. Pray that others want to follow the example that your students enact in their daily lives. Pray that by following your students’ examples, others will be introduced to Christ.