

## Challenge:

- What calling to people am I needing to pay more attention to? What's my next move?
- What is the thing God is asking me to do? \_\_\_\_\_  
It's time to do it.

## Life Group Homework

For the week of October 13, 2019

### MY STORY

1. What is your favorite verse in the Bible and why?
2. What was your takeaway from last week's study?

### QUICK REVIEW

3. Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, what caught your attention?

### DIGGING DEEPER

#### Judges 6:25-35(ESV)

*That night the Lord said to him, "Take your father's bull, and the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it <sup>26</sup>and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down." <sup>27</sup>So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night.*

#### Gideon Destroys the Altar of Baal

*<sup>28</sup>When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. <sup>29</sup>And they said to one another, "Who has done this thing?" And after they had searched and inquired, they said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing." <sup>30</sup>Then the men of the town said to Joash, "Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of Baal and cut down the Asherah beside it." <sup>31</sup>But Joash said to all who stood against him, "Will you contend for Baal? Or will you save him? Whoever contends for him shall be put to death by morning. If he is a god, let him contend for himself, because his altar has been broken down." <sup>32</sup>Therefore on that day Gideon was called Jerubbaal, that is to say, "Let Baal contend against him," because he broke down his altar.*

*<sup>33</sup>Now all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East came together, and they crossed the Jordan and encamped in the Valley of Jezreel. <sup>34</sup>But the Spirit of the*

*Lord clothed Gideon, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him. <sup>35</sup>And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, and they too were called out to follow him. And he sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.*

4. Why do you think God chose Gideon?
5. Last week we unpacked "the how." The first thing Gideon did was to tear down the idols as an act of obedience. When we remove a form of worship in our lives, what do we need to put in its place?
6. Who was Gideon's help?
7. What is the difference between the way Gideon was clothed by the Holy Spirit and how the Christian is promised the Holy Spirit? Why does this matter?

This week Pastor Craig told us that God has given us everything we need to live a godly life. We will be unpacking that thought and how it applies to you and me.

### TAKING IT HOME

#### 2 Peter 1:3-7 (NLT)

*<sup>3</sup>By his divine power, God has given us everything we need for living a godly life. We have received all of this by coming to know him, the one who called us to himself by means of his marvelous glory and excellence. <sup>4</sup>And because of his glory and excellence, he has given us great and precious promises. These are the promises that enable you to share his divine nature and escape the world's corruption caused by human desires.*

*<sup>5</sup>In view of all this, make every effort to respond to God's promises. Supplement your faith with a generous provision of moral excellence, and moral excellence with knowledge, <sup>6</sup>and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with patient endurance, and patient endurance with godliness, <sup>7</sup>and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love for everyone.*

8. What do we need for a godly life?

9. In verse 4 it refers to divine promises; what are they?

10. What are we supposed to do because of these promises? This is our response to the generosity of God.

11. What is moral excellence? How do other Bible versions translate that word?

12. What kind of knowledge are we to add?

13. What does self-control mean, and how do we do it?

14. Why would we need patient endurance?

15. What is godliness?

16. What does brotherly love mean in practice?

## CHAIR TIME TOOLS

17. Read 2 Peter again and pray and ask God to reveal to you what you need to add from the list provided.

## Gideon Series - "Against the Odds"

PASTOR CRAIG SWEENEY

October 13, 2019

**Thread:** It is God who leads us to PEACE and REST over our **enemies**.

**Enemy = Anything preventing me from succeeding/living into my calling.**

**Passage:** Judges 6:12, 25-32 (NLT)

*"The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!'"* Judges 6:12 (NLT)

Gideon was included in the work of God because:

1. He believed God...**FAITH**.  
*Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!"* Judges 6:12 (NLT)

Gideon was included in the work of God because:

2. He was **obedient** to God's clarity.
  - (Mark 12:29–31)
  - The act of obedience **mattered** for Gideon to move on in God's plan.
  - Gideon followed:  
His word, His whispers.  
Reaching FOR the smaller thing... **making way** for the BIGGER thing!  
Sweat the DAILY/small things...
    1. Connecting to God – Chair Time
    2. Keeping our hearts clean.
    3. Being responsible and dependable FOR what we are responsible for.
3. Looking through a N.T. lens.
  - You have all YOU NEED to obey God's **CLARITY**.  
2 Peter 1:2–3
  - What is more powerful than the **CROSS** event?  
Colossians 2:12-20
4. Putting it all together:
  - God has CALLED you to certain people as well...
  - Called me to what?
    1. "Loves God with their whole heart and strength..."
    2. "Love your neighbor as yourself."