

God Will Fight for You Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Generally speaking, do you tend to make concessions in order to avoid conflict? Explain.
2. What time do you typically go to sleep at night?

Read the following passage: Exodus 3:7-10; 14:10-14.

Moses was born into a world of conflict. Pharaoh and the Egyptians, fearing a potential Israelite uprising, oppressed the Israelites with harsh forced labor. On top of this, Pharaoh commanded the Hebrew midwives to kill the male Hebrew offspring when they were born. As a baby, Moses survived only through a providential encounter with Pharaoh's daughter near the edge of the Nile. When God decided to deliver the Israelites, he called Moses to lead them. Moses was extremely hesitant, but, over time, learned that God would fight for his people.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. Can you remember awakening to the reality that we live in a world characterized by conflict? Explain.
2. Read Ephesians 2:1-3. In this passage Paul alludes to three powers that lead us away from God: the world, the "ruler of the kingdom of the air" (i.e. Satan and other demonic forces), and the flesh. Describe each of these powers. How might these powers precipitate many of the conflicts we experience?
3. As an adult, Moses saw an Egyptian beating an Israelite, and decided to attack and kill the Egyptian. The Israelites didn't respond favorably to Moses' actions, and Moses feared the Egyptians would kill him. So he fled to Midian. How do we recognize when 1) God is fighting for us and calling us to action, and 2) we are just acting on our own apart from God's will?
4. Moses' response to God's call was, "Who am I?" How do our beliefs about our identity impact our trust in God's promise to fight for us? What is God's response to Moses' question (Exodus 3:12)? How might this help us when we're struggling with our own identity?
5. Are you confident that the Lord will fight for you? Explain. What, if anything, has a tendency to hinder your confidence that God will fight for you?

6. Read Exodus 9:13-16. Israel's conflict with Egypt was not just about Israel. It was about the glory of God. How might God gain glory through the challenges we face? Is there any benefit for us when God is glorified?

7. What battles do you need to submit to the Lord?

Pray