

Life Group Discussion Guide

August 2, 2015



Part 6: Down But Not Out

Introduction

"Arrogance is weakness disguised as strength"
- Unknown

Scripture References

- Judges 16

Discussion Kick Off

1. Who was your favorite super hero as you were growing up?
2. If you could have one super power, what would it be?

Evaluate It

1. If you could use one word to describe Samson, what would it be?
2. Why do you believe God would choose a guy like Samson to deliver the Israelite's?
3. Jason says, "The only remedy to arrogance is brokenness." Why do you think that is true?
4. Read Judges 16:27-30. In brokenness Samson finally cried out to God. Why do you believe we cry out to Him after hitting the bottom?
5. Like Samson, if you could pray for one thing to happen, what would it be? Why?

Make It Personal

1. **Samson's downfall began with arrogance. What can we do to keep from following Samson's path?**
2. Just like Samson, God provides speed bumps for us. How can we be more aware of the presence of those speed bumps?

Dave Bosewell tells the story of Earl Weaver who was the manager of the Baltimore Orioles and how he handled slugger Reggie Jackson. Weaver had a rule that no one could steal a base unless the steal sign was given. This upset Jackson because he knew pitchers and catchers well enough so he could steal without a sign. So one day he did just that. He stole second base without the sign. He made it easy and was very satisfied with himself. Later Weaver took Jackson aside and explained why there was no steal sign given. First of all, the next batter was the best power hitter they had besides Jackson. When Jackson stole second, the other team just walked the next batter so he didn't have a chance to hit. The next batter up had never been very strong against this pitcher so Weaver decided to send in a pinch hitter to try to drive in the two men on base. This left Weaver without bench strength later in the game when he needed it. The problem was that Jackson only saw the game from his perspective. He was only concerned about himself. Weaver could see the whole game and knew what was needed and when. So when he sends the signal not to steal second, it is best that you don't do it.

Starting a Table or Life Group? Take a look at the helpful information below:

Who establishes and makes up a table group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

- Meeting (how often, how long): Weekly or bi-weekly (day and time is decided by the group). No more than 2 hours.
- Who should lead a life or table group? Leadership can be shared, or the group may choose a leader.
- How long should the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together at the end of that time, but initially groups should stay together 6-8 weeks.
- What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table or life group should have more than 15 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 15 participants, there are two options:
 - Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 15) or
 - Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants)
- If you have any questions or would like to establish a life group, please contact Jason Fox at 270-765-4994 or jason@fccetown.com.

If you would like to talk with a minister,
call 270-765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones (Senior Minister)
stuart@fccetown.com

Chris Harp (Executive Minister)
chrisharp@fccetown.com

Doug Mitchell (Connections Minister)
doug@fccetown.com

Jason Fox (Small Group Minister)
jason@fccetown.com

Tim Hurd (Children's Minister)
tim@fccetown.com

Shannon Smith (Assistant Children's Director)
shannon@fccetown.com

Chris Kiger (Student Minister)
chris@fccetown.com

