

DISCUSSION GUIDE

POWER + GLORY

SESSIONS 1-5

Session 1 - Abram & Sarai

To Begin

When you were a kid, what do you especially remember doing that got you into trouble?

Digging Deeper

- What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

Together, open your Bibles and read from Genesis 12:1-3; Genesis 16:1-16.

Though God had promised Abram a son, Abram and Sarai were now 85 and 75 years old respectively. In this story, they decided to practice a common custom of their time in order to provide the birth of a male successor.

Picture yourself as Abram . . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Abram?

- How do you think Abram felt about Sarai's plan?

Picture yourself as Sarai . . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Sarai?

- What do you think drove her to this course of action?

Picture yourself as Hagar . . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Hagar?

- How do you think Hagar felt about Sarai's plan?

- Which of the people in the story do you most identify with?
- Who do you pick when you want to pass blame on someone other than yourself? Why is it easier to blame anyone other than yourself?
- In your close relationships, how often do you find yourself in impulsive situations that cause conflict or misunderstandings? How can you avoid the damage caused by acting on impulse?
- In your life, what are you waiting for? How are you dealing with the wait? How have you tried to take matters into your own hands?
- How does this story apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Praise & Prayer Points

Pray for each other's prayer requests and share what God is doing in your life.

Session 2 - Joseph & Pharaoh

To Begin

What's the strangest dream you've ever had?

Digging Deeper

- What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

Together, open your Bibles and read from Genesis 41:1-40

First, Joseph was sold into slavery by his jealous brothers. He came to be in charge of his master's household in Egypt, until he was falsely accused of assaulting his master's wife. He was then quickly thrown in prison and while in prison, he correctly interpreted the dreams of his two fellow inmates.

Picture yourself as Joseph. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Joseph?

- You've been in prison for two years already, how does that make you feel?
- What qualities in Joseph's life stand out to you the most from this story?
- Which qualities do you most need or desire for yourself? Why?

Picture yourself as Pharaoh. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Pharaoh?

- Which of the people in the story do you most identify with?
- When was the last time you wondered if God has forgotten about you? How does this story remind you that God is always there for you?

- Do you think God is using the difficult situations in your life for something? If so, what?
- How does God usually give you guidance?
- How does this story apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Praise & Prayer Points

Pray for each other's prayer requests and share what God is doing in your life.

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Session 3 - Moses & Pharaoh

To Begin

Where have you had your most unusual or significant experience with God?

Digging Deeper

- What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

Together, open your Bibles and read from Exodus 3:1-22

Though an Israelite by birth, Moses was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter. After killing an Egyptian slave driver who was beating an Israelite slave, Moses fled to Midian where he married and became a shepherd. Moses was 40 years old when he fled from Egypt and 80 years old when our story occurs.

Picture yourself as Moses. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? If you were in Moses' sandals, what would you be thinking about? How do you relate to Moses?

- How would you feel if you saw a bush that was on fire but wasn't burning?
- In terms of fulfilling God's calling, Moses was "unemployed" in a sense. How can you relate to Moses being asked to take a "job" with which he wasn't comfortable?
- What's God's "call" in your life? What would it take to get your attention and your commitment to investing yourself in a new mission in life?
- What has the "burning bush" been in your life?
- How would you describe your relationship with God right now?
- How does this story apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Praise & Prayer Points

Pray for each other's prayer requests and share what God is doing in your life.

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Session 4 - Deborah & Sisera

To Begin

How did your mother resolve disputes between you and your siblings or friends?

Digging Deeper

- What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

Together, open your Bibles and read from Judges 4:1-24

During the period of the Judges, God provided deliverance for the Israelites through a chain of human command. On this occasion, God's choice was quite unusual for that time and place. His choice was a woman.

Picture yourself as Deborah. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Deborah?

- What do you think made Deborah a great leader?
- Deborah was able to be an assertive servant. What person today do you look to as an example of that kind of strength?
- If you had Deborah's confidence, what would you attempt to do?
- How do you think the Israelite men felt about the honour of victory going to two women? How do you think the Israelite women felt?

Share a time in your life when you may have had a keen sense of God's timing as Deborah did.

- What is keeping you from fully realizing your potential more fully?
- In what ways have you experienced God's deliverance?

- Which of the people in the story do you most identify with?
- How does this story apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Praise & Prayer Points

Pray for each other's prayer requests and share what God is doing in your life.

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Session 5 - Saul & David

To Begin

Have you ever received an award? What is it for?

Digging Deeper

- What stood out to you the most from this past weekend service?

Together, open your Bibles and read from 1 Samuel 18:1-30

David had recently experienced two events that would change his life forever. First he was anointed by the prophet Samuel, without King Saul's knowledge, to be Israel's next king. Secondly, he courageously defeated Goliath in an amazing display of trust and confidence in God. David's success caused Saul to become so jealous and insecure that he actually wanted David to be killed.

Picture yourself as Saul. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to Saul?

- When have you been jealous of someone? What was most likely the cause?
- How much do you play the comparison game? How can we quit comparing ourselves to others?

Picture yourself as David. . .

What emotions or feelings come to mind? What are you thinking about? How do you relate to David?

- How do you respond to someone who is out to get you personally or professionally?
- What do you think was the secret to David's success?
- How can we feel secure in our relationships in the same way that Jonathan and David did with each other?

- How can this story help to stop you from always comparing yourself to others? Can we learn to rejoice in the accomplishments of others?
- Which of the people in the story do you most identify with?
- How does this story apply to your life? What will you do about it?

Praise & Prayer Points

Pray for each other's prayer requests and share what God is doing in your life.

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