

The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.

Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.

INTRODUCTION 2/18/2018

This week's main point is that trust takes worship. Too often we follow God with a half-hearted focus. However, when we turn to God and worship him because of who he is, we find freedom.

QUESTIONS

- 1. What was most insightful from Sunday's message? Why did this stand out to you?
- 2. How are trust and worship interconnected?
- 3. Re-read Judges 6:12-18. What stands out to you from this text? Is there anything that resonates or intrigues you?
- 4. This message is titled "The Joys of Freedom". What does this mean in the context of worshiping and trusting Adonai (the Lord)?
- 5. Gideon raises questions about God's character and his ability to trust the reports of what God has done in the past. How do these two elements—character and past history—influence trust?
- 6. Why did Israel find herself in this situation, under the hand of the Midianites? (consider Judges 6:1)

- 7. Have you ever expressed Gideon's question in verse 13: "If the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us"? When?
- 8. What did you find helpful or unhelpful at that time?
- 9. Did your understanding or perspective of the situation change the further removed from that event you became? Why or how?
- 10. John spoke about half-hearted worship. What part do we play in our trust relationship with God?
- 11. Israel had a choice of serving Ba'al or Adonai (The Lord). Ba'al was a foreign god, a god of the culture in which they found themselves. What could be contemporary examples of this from which we have to choose—a Ba'al or the Lord?
- 12. What does it look like to choose Adonai? What areas of your life would change? What areas would require the greatest trust?

Closing Prayer

Creator and sustainer of all things, I thank you that you are present with me. I am grateful that you are near in every situation. Help me to turn to you more frequently than I turn from you. Give me patience as I learn trust over time. Grant me the strength to develop that habits that grow our relationship and bring me to the place of knowing who you are more intimately. I pray this in the name of Jesus, amen.