

I Have More in Me Than I Thought I Had | Andrew Matrone | 5.30.21 Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

Name three people who have had the biggest influence on your life. Why did you pick those three people?

SHARE

Welcome back to Group! This week, Andrew gave a powerful message called I Have More In Me Than I Thought I Had. Before we dive into the sermon, take some time to check in with your Group by answering these questions.

What is one word you would use to describe how you are currently feeling? Why did you choose that word?

What was the most challenging part of your week?

What was the highlight of your week?

GROW

Read Judges 6:11-16

What do you know about the context of Judges 6? What part of the Bible is this story taking place in?

Which verse stuck out to you about this passage? Why?

When we first meet Gideon, he is threshing wheat in a winepress. Threshing wheat is the process of separating the wheat from the chaff by throwing it up into the air and letting the wind blow away the chaff. In order to thresh wheat successfully, you need wind. In other words, a winepress is a horrible place for Gideon to be threshing wheat.

Why do you think Gideon is trying to thresh wheat in a winepress?

The most logical conclusion to draw here is Gideon is terrified. He's scared. He's hiding. He's living in fear. And yet, when the angel of the Lord appears, he calls him "Mighty Warrior." Gideon was probably shocked. I doubt he felt like a mighty warrior. As Andrew reminded us this week, "God calls Gideon by who he created him to be, not by what his current circumstances made him believe he was." The identity precedes our purpose. We have to know who we are before we can be expected to be who we are!

Once we know who we are, we will know what we need to do!

Have you ever felt unqualified for something you felt like God was calling you to? What was it? Tell the Group about the experience.

What is one fruit of the Spirit you believe God is calling you to step into (love, joy, peace, patience, etc.) Even if you don't feel like it yet, what is one way you can begin to start to live as if it is true?

MOVE

Read Judges 6:36-40

What stuck out to you about this passage? Why?

Take some time to read the rest of Gideon's story this week. Here's a quick recap:

- Gideon finally agrees to lead the Israelites into battle.
- God shrinks Gideon's army from 32,000 to 300 men even though they are up against 120,000.
- Gideon's men didn't even have to fight. They just shouted and blew their trumpets, and God did the rest.

When we take steps of faith, we get to find out firsthand that God always goes with us. When we step into the things God is calling us to step into, we realize that He is giving us everything we've needed.

God never promises us that things will be easy. Instead, he gives us two much more significant promises.

- 1. He promises to go with us!
- 2. He promises to give us what we need as we go!

What are your thoughts when you read those promises? Are you able to believe them? Are you able to live as if they are true? Why or why not?

Learning to follow Jesus is a lifelong process. But the more steps of faith we take, the more we get to experience God's power at work in our life. As we go, we learn, grow, change, and continue becoming more like him. As Andrew reminded us this week, "God has not taken you through the things you have gone through to get you back to normal!" We are moving forward! And everything you have been through has been to equip you to lead the way!

What is one next step you feel like God is calling you to step into?

What is one tangible step you can take this week to be more like Jesus? How can your Group help keep you accountable?

We need prayer now more than ever. Spend some time-sharing prayer requests. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two separate groups (or calls if you are an online group) to share more freely.

TOGO

When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."

- Judges 6:12