



## BiG iDEA SMALL GROUP DiSCUSSiON GiDE

Small groups that focus on the Big Idea for the week can use this guide to apply the message to life and take action. Feel free to use whatever parts of this guide best fit your group personality and time frame. Do NOT feel like you have to use every question. All verses, unless otherwise noted, are from the New International Version (NIV).

**06.26/27.10 // The Warrior: Strength in Weakness.**

**BiG iDEA: *When you fight spiritual battles in your own strength, you become vulnerable; but when you fight with God’s strength, you have what it takes to win.***

// Ice Breaker \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 1: What do you think of when you see a police officer? ( fear, security, thankful, etc) A fireman?**

**Option 2: What are your plans for the 4th of July week-end?**

// Questions for Discussion \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. Judges 6: 12

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

**Exodus 15: 3** "The Lord is a warrior. The Lord is his name."

**Did Gideon see himself as a warrior? Why or why not?**

**Do you think most Christian see themselves as warriors?**

**How do you think God sees us?**

### 2. Judges 6: 15

"But Lord," Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family."

**Gideon was afraid of failure.**

**What do people fear they will fail at today?**

**What do you fear you will fail at?**

**When do you think it would be wrong or sinful to fear failure?**

**What are some ways to overcome fear of failure?**

### 3. Matthew 14: 28 - 31

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?"

**What things in your life give you a sense of security, safety and comfort?**

**How does our desire for security result in our fighting for counterfeit causes such as possessions, comfort and status?**

**Peter got in trouble when he took his eyes off Jesus. What would it mean today for us to keep our eyes on Jesus?**

### 4. Titus 2: 3 - 5 CEV

"Tell the older women to behave as those who love the Lord should. They must not gossip about others or be slaves of wine. They must teach what is proper, so the younger women will be loving wives and mothers. Each of the younger women must be sensible and kind, as well as a good homemaker, who puts her own husband first. Then no one can say insulting things about God's message.

**It's said that behind every successful man is a woman.**

**How can a woman help her man be a warrior?**

**What if he doesn't fit her picture of a spiritual leader?**

**Should a woman be a warrior herself?**

### 5. Brett gave some very practical everyday examples of winning battles.

- You need to lose weight for your health. Push away the 2nd serving. Stay away from the donuts.
- You struggle with purity. You look away when a young thing walks by.
- Your family doesn't look like a good Christian family. You say 'tonight we are going to pray.'
- Your child is going the wrong way. You say, 'I love you too much to continue this way.'

**Why do you think it's important to fight these everyday battles?**

**What does God think about us fighting these everyday battles?**

**What would be some other examples of fighting everyday battles?**

**How can God help us with these battles? (fasting, accountability partner, prayer, etc)**

### 6. 2 Peter 1:3

(God's) divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

**Philippians 4:13**

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

**Is it always easy to believe that God wants to help us? Why or why not?**

**What are some ways to improve our belief that God helps us?**

**Have the group share how God has helped them in their lives.**

**7. 1 Thessalonians 5: 11**

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

**Why is it dangerous to try to fight on our own?**

**What are some examples of encouraging each other?**

**Share a time when you were encouraged by another Christian. How did that make you feel?**

**What does accountability mean to you? Do you have an accountability partner?**

**8. 2 Corinthians 12: 8 - 10**

Three times I pleaded with the Lord to take it away from me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

**Why do you think God answered Paul's prayer by saying no to his request to take his problem away?**

**What did Paul say were the benefits in not having his problem removed?**

**Have the group share what some of their problems are.**

**Share what God is doing in the midst of the problems.**

**9. BiG iDEA: When you fight spiritual battles in your own strength, you become vulnerable; but when you fight with God's strength, you have what it takes to win.**

**Why do you become vulnerable when you use your own strength?**

**Why do you need God's strength in your life?**

**What does God's strength look like in someone's life?**

**// Application \_\_\_\_\_**

**Read and commit to memory . Philippians 4: 13**

I can do everything through him who gives me strength.

**Trust in the Lord as you recommit yourself to being a warrior and taking up the fight.**

**// Prayer \_\_\_\_\_**

**Courage to fight the battles the Lord would have for us.**

**Safety and peace for those who are the first responders, policemen, firemen, medical personnel and their families.**



*1 Timothy 6: 12a  
Fight the good  
fight of the faith...*