

SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

September 24/25, 2016; Chase the Lion

Speaker:

Pastor Mark Batterson

Scripture Focus: 2 Samuel 23:9-10

Note To Leaders:

This weekend we discussed five ways to fight for our dreams. These questions provide a framework to prompt or foster discussion in your small group. Don't feel you have to use all or any of these questions and you don't have to make it to the end! Use the questions that best fit your group and let discussion flow.

Icebreaker Suggestions: Pastor Mark said that his definition of success is "when those who know you best respect you the most." What is your definition of success?

Sermon Series Questions:

1. What thoughts are still resonating with you from the sermon?
2. What was most encouraging or challenging about this weekend's message?
3. In what ways did 2 Samuel 23:9-10 speak to you?

Specific Questions:

1. Pastor Mark talked about the Theory of Compensation, which is "what we think of as disadvantages often prove to be advantages because they force us to cultivate compensatory attitudes and abilities that probably would have lain dormant or gone undiscovered without them." What disadvantages are you encountering right now and how do you think they can become advantages?
2. We all have battles. It's one thing to choose your battles wisely. It's another to know the battlefield. What battlefield are you ready to die on?
3. Pastor Mark said, "If you succeed at the wrong thing, you've failed. If you fail at the right thing, you've succeeded." How do you determine what battles to fight? What are you fighting for?
4. In what areas of your life do you need to work harder, grow stronger, and get smarter?

5. Pastor Mark said that one of the ways to fight for your dreams is to get around the right people. Who do you need to be around to help inspire you to go after your dreams or to help someone else with their dreams? Who do you need to be “with”?

6. Pastor Mark read a study on the comparisons of fixed mindsets versus growth mindsets in the book *Mindset* by Carol Dweck. A fixed mindset says your qualities are set in stone. A growth mindset says your qualities can be cultivated through effort. One focuses on perfection, the other on potential. One focuses on failure, the other on learning. Which mindset do you think you operate out of the most?

7. What fight do you need to take your sword to?

Challenge:

Assess which one of the five ways that Pastor Mark challenged us to fight for our dreams is the most difficult to do. Which ones are easy? Then, challenge yourself to go after one this week and take the charge. Maybe you need a new definition of success. Maybe you need to fight the battle and not throw in the towel. Maybe you need to build your Lego dream piece by piece. Focus on one aspect this week and pray through how God wants to use it in your life.

1. Define Success
2. Take it One Step at a Time
3. Get Around the Right People
4. Adopt a Growth Mindset
5. You Gotta Fight Till Your Hand Freezes to the Sword

Read, Pray, Act:

Read 2 Samuel 23:8-10- reflect on what part was the most impactful in the Chase the Lion series?

If God revealed a dream to you in this season, talk to one of our pastors about the next steps you can take to make that dream come to fruition.