

Sermon Outline

Key verse

The Lord is my light and my salvation, who shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life, of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:1

Shine God's light in the darkness

1. Trust God's call

Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands.

Judges 7:19

2. Fight with God's weapons

The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

2 Corinthians 10:4

3. Give God the glory

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

CHARGE INTO THE DARK

SEPTEMBER 7
DISCUSSION GUIDE

Opening Thought

In Judges 7, Gideon led 300 men in a midnight attack against an army that looked impossible to defeat. Armed with nothing but trumpets, torches, and clay jars, they obeyed God's strange plan—and God brought a miraculous victory.

Ice breakers

- What's a scary situation you've had to walk into "in the dark"—literally or figuratively?
- Can you think of a movie or story where the hero had to face impossible odds, but still pushed forward?
- LEADER: consider taking a few minutes to work on our Bible memory verse together.

Dig Deeper

- Read Judges 7:19–21. Why do you think God used such a strange strategy (torches, trumpets, jars) instead of traditional weapons? What does this teach us about how God works?
- Have you ever felt like God asked you to do something that didn't make sense at the time? How did it turn out?
- How does this story connect with Paul's teaching in 2 Corinthians 12:9–10 ("when I am weak, then I am strong")?
- What "dark" place in your life right now might God be calling you to step into with faith?
- Read Judges 8:22–27. Gideon started by giving God the glory, but ended by creating something that led people into idolatry. Why is it so easy to slip from humility into pride after success?
- What practical steps can we take to make sure God gets the glory in our lives?
- Which part of Gideon's story encourages you the most?

Closing

God's victories come when his people charge into the dark in faith. Shine his light and give him the glory!