

You Can Do It! Tim Ross

Focus God has plans for us. When we follow Him, He will trade our weakness for His strength. The story of Gideon shows us why we can do whatever God has called

us to do. You can do it because God will help you!

Fun If you had one extra hour in your day, how would you use it?

Review Key Scriptures: Judges 6, Ephesians 2:10

1. God has plans for you.

In Judges, after the children of Israel disobeyed the Lord and turned away from Him, He gave them over to the Midianites and they faced starvation. But God had a plan and He chose to use Gideon, the weakest man from the weakest tribe, to reveal His strength. In the same way, God has plans for us even if we are in difficult circumstances or feel like we don't measure up.

2. God is strong in you.

In Judges 6:14, Gideon tries to convince God how weak he is, but God says *go*. In 2 Corinthians 12:9, God tells Paul, "My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness." God wants to use us in our weakness so that only He will receive the glory for what He does in our lives. When God gives you a specific word of instruction, He has already taken into account whom He gave the word to. Regardless of how you may feel, God knows that with His strength you can do it!

3. God is with you.

God promised to be with Gideon, and God promises to be with us. He has called us by name, and we are His. No matter what we go through or what difficulties we face, we will not be overcome because God is with us. He is the great I AM, our Lord and Savior.

Group Dynamics Idea

Consider having a time of extended worship or a night set aside for worship only. You may want to invite a guest worship leader. You can start the evening off with fellowship and after worship take time to pray for one another and the specific needs represented in the group.

Discuss

- 1. Pastor Tim shared that it's hard for many of us to receive a compliment, and we even deflect them with disclaimers. Is it hard for you to receive compliments? If so, why?
- 2. Read Ephesians 2:10. What does it mean to you to be God's masterpiece? Do you believe you are God's masterpiece right now?
- 3. Does the way you see yourself hinder you from doing what God has called you to do? Explain.
- 4. God is the great I AM. How does focusing on His greatness, His qualities, His attributes, and His faithfulness help us to have a better perspective? Can you think of examples of how this encourages you in areas where you are weak?
- 5. Read Isaiah 43:1. How does knowing God is with you affect the way you handle difficulties? Can you think of a time where you've gone through a tough time but felt the strength and grace of God working in you? If so, what was that like? If not, pray and ask God to help you experience His strength and grace no matter what you are going through.
- 6. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? Take time to quietly wait on God and ask Him to speak specifically to you.

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- God has plans for you.
- God is strong in you.
- God is with you.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are worthy of all our praise! Thank you that we are never alone and that You have plans for us! Thank You for making us Your masterpiece. Help us to grow in our knowledge and revelation of Jesus Christ and of Your great love for us. We believe You are with us, and we believe You will strengthen us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip

Trust that God has called you to lead and to care for people. Always lead with kindness no matter what challenges you face or what difficulties you encounter while caring for people. God told Peter after His death and resurrection, "If you love Me, feed my sheep." One way you can demonstrate your love for Jesus is by "feeding" or caring for and loving God's people.