



This is the first battle for the nation and Moses' arms are lifted up by Aaron and Hur so that Joshua can win. Collaboration/ partnership/ ownership/ giftedness are important for us to reach the "promised land" and to meet the barriers ahead of us. Team means we have to engage as best we can. Who knew that merely lifting a hand could save a nation? What is your role to play in the future of the church?

Opening Question:

Did you participate in any sports or extracurricular activities growing up? How did your performance (or lack thereof) affect the team? Share a specific story if one comes to mind.

Read: Exodus 17:8-16

What most resonated with you from the passage or from the sermon this past weekend?

Understanding the Story:

What is significant about the focus of Israel's first military battle being placed on what happens on the hill with Moses instead of on what happens with Joshua on the battlefield?

What imagery from this passage shows that it is God's might and not the might of the Israelite soldiers in battle that is responsible for this victory?

Living the Story:

Name one area or circumstance in your life that you are trusting God to help you through. What are some things that help you to see that God is at work in the midst of your current circumstances?

The Israelites were given courage and reminded of the invisible presence of God when they looked at Moses' stick. Are there any areas of your life where your faith is bolstered by a "stick", i.e., some sort of physical or metaphorical representation of the power of God?

What kind of victory in your own life might cause you to want to thank God and mark the incident physically, (like God's people did when building an altar in v.15)? What is the modern equivalent building an altar? If you have responded to God's goodness in this way, consider sharing it with the group.

Pray:

Take time to thank God, aloud or silently, for the victories He's won in your life.