

# Small Group Discussion Guide

*Turnarounds: For the week of July 19 - 25, 2020*

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## **Physical distancing protocols for safety at Small Groups:**

- Upon arrival and departure from group, please wear masks.
- Once seated and physically distanced, masks can be removed.
- Whenever physical distancing is not possible, we kindly ask that masks remain on.

## **Main Thought and Scriptures:**

As the Israelites continued in their journey to the promised land, they were attacked by an army of nomadic raiders known as the Amalekites. Having lived as slaves for 400 years in Egypt, they did not have a standing army nor were they trained in battle. The odds were stacked against them. How could they prevail against trained warriors bent on their destruction?

*"Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. <sup>9</sup>So Moses said to Joshua, 'Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand.'<sup>10</sup>So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup>Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup>But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. <sup>13</sup>And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword." (Exodus 17:8-13 ESV)*

## **Turnarounds begin and continue with prayer.**

As Moses lifted his hands, a posture of prayer, the battle went in Israel's favor.

*"I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;" (1 Timothy 2:8 ESV)*

## **Turnarounds continue as we support and pray for our leaders.**

Aaron and Hur supported Moses, literally holding up his hands which enabled the victory.

*"I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Timothy 2:1-2 NIV)*

## **Discussion Questions:** *Break into groups of 3 to discuss.*

- What stands out to you from the main thought and scriptures above and why?
- How do you think you can practically support the leaders in your life and in the community?

## **Prayer:** *Break into pairs and take turns praying.*

- Pray for the leaders over you (local, national, global) that God would give them the wisdom to lead, and that they would come to faith in Jesus.
- Take turns praying for one unreached friend or family member who doesn't know Jesus.