

# SERMON BASED CURRICULUM

**Date & Sermon Series:**

September 17/18, 2016; Chase the Lion

**Speaker:**

Pastor Mark Batterson

**Scripture Focus:** 2 Samuel 23:8

**Note To Leaders:**

This weekend we discussed what it means to step out in faith and how most things are dreams within a dream. 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:** What encounter have you had that changed the entire trajectory of your life from that moment forward?

**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 23:8 speak to you about the raising of the spear?

**Specific Questions:**

1. When was the last time you felt like you were up against 800 people like "Joe" in verse 8, against all odds? What did you do?
2. What are you running from today? If you aren't running, what are you chasing after today?
3. Pastor Mark said that it is important to "accept when the odds are against us and to not avoid those situations because it is in those moments God reveals both his glory and his power"! What odds do you feel are stacked up against you today? How are you expectantly believing God to move through in a mighty way?
4. Pastor Mark said that, "Faith is taking the first step before God reveals the second step." Why do you think it's harder to take the first step of faith before the second step is revealed?
5. When have you experienced a ripple effect in your spirit? How have you been affected by someone else's prayers? What prayer can you be praying to set off a ripple effect in others' lives?

6. What are you doing today that will make a difference 100 years from now?
7. What opportunities are you not taking where you need to step out in faith? What decisions do you need to make by stepping out in faith?

**Challenge:**

Pastor Mark talked about how most things in this life are dreams within a dream. Everything has ripple effects and our actions continue to influence other lives. He also went on to share the names of the people in his life who have made the most impact. Who has been a part of your life that has impacted you in order to influence others? This week, as a challenge, make a list of these people and recognize them. Take time to call them, write a letter, or send them a text letting them know what they did to make an impact in your life.

**Read, Pray, Act:**

- 1) Follow the Chase the Lion reading plan on <http://www.youversion.com>.
- 2) Pray through the Chase the Lion Manifesto (You can download it here: <http://chasethelion.com>). Focus on and memorize one or two lines from it.
- 3) Spend some time this week journaling what decisions you need to make or opportunities you need to take in order to be obedient through faith. Then take the next right step and act on it.