

# **Sermon-Based Discussion Guide**

Westwood Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama Jay Gordon, Pastor of Small Groups Trey Murphy, Home Groups Director WestwoodGroups.com

# Sun Stand Still Jason Seales September 4, 2011

### **SCRIPTURE**

### Joshua 10:8

The LORD said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid of them; I have given them into your hand. Not one of them will be able to withstand you."

- <sup>9</sup> After an all-night march from Gilgal, Joshua took them by surprise. <sup>10</sup> The LORD threw them into confusion before Israel, so Joshua and the Israelites defeated them completely at Gibeon. Israel pursued them along the road going up to Beth Horon and cut them down all the way to Azekah and Makkedah. <sup>11</sup> As they fled before Israel on the road down from Beth Horon to Azekah, the LORD hurled large hailstones down on them, and more of them died from the hail than were killed by the swords of the Israelites.
- <sup>12</sup> On the day the LORD gave the Amorites over to Israel, Joshua said to the LORD in the presence of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon, and you, moon, over the Valley of Aijalon."
- <sup>13</sup> So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar.

The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day. <sup>14</sup> There has never been a day like it before or since, a day when the LORD listened to a human being. Surely the LORD was fighting for Israel!

### **ENGAGE**

Do you believe that God is still in the miracle business? How would most Americans answer this question?

Have you seen or experienced any miracles in your life?

### DISCUSS

- 1. Read the focus passage above. What surprises you in this passage?
- 2. Read Hebrews 11:6. How does this passage challenge us?
- 3. We learn that God can make a miracle out of a mess. What messes in your life now would you most like for God to be involved?

- 4. Asking and acting go hand in hand. How can we act like we're believing God to act in our lives?
- 5. Read Luke 17:5-6. What kind of faith do you believe Jesus was describing in saying we need "the faith of a mustard seed?"
- 6. Bold faith is ignited by prayer. Read James 4:2-3. What all do we learn from this passage? Are we taking the concerns of our life to God? Why do we treat prayer as a last resort?
- 7. Prayer turns problems into opportunities. How do you see this happen?
- 8. What are the advantages of doing life in group? Read Ecclesiastes 4:12.

# YOUR NEXT STEP

This week, find a group of people to share your spiritual life with. Find a person or group of people who will encourage you spiritually and who you will encourage.

Today's Truth: What seems impossible for me is not remotely difficult for God.

## **CHILDREN'S TIME**

- 1. Give some background and read the focus passage.
- 2. Ask the children, "Is God in the miracle business today?"
- 3. How important is it to have other Christians to encourage you or be an example for you?
- 4. What can we do to see God do big things in our lives?

# **OTHER PASSAGES CITED**

Luke 17:5-6

James 4:2-3

Ecclesiastes 4:12

Hebrews 11:6