



# GEEKS UNDER GRACE

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## OCEAN'S 8 (2018) | *When The Plan Goes South* | BIBLE STUDY

Facilitator Note: We encourage facilitators to take this Bible study and expound on it throughout the week, allowing it to be a springboard for deeper conversation and personal meditation.

### PRESS START

This movie took a franchise we thought was gone and brought it back. **What are your thoughts on this and other franchises that do this? (Ex: Star Wars, Indiana Jones, Pirates of the Caribbean, etc.)**

### EQUIP

In Ocean's 8, we find Debbie Ocean, sister to Danny Ocean, out of prison and heading to pull a heist. At one point she says she has been planning this for five years, eight months, and twelve days in prison. That's a really long time to plan something! I don't know about you, but if it took me that long to plan something and there was a hitch in the road, I think I might have lost my mind. But when the magnetic lock appeared on the Toussaint Necklace, Debbie Ocean kept her cool.

See, Debbie knew something the audience did not think about. All the planning in the world only goes so far. Things worked out for Ms. Ocean, but this compares beautifully to a story of a man who it seems was always having to deal with the plan not going how he wanted it to go. Our friend Gideon was a general, prophet, and Israelite. During the time frame we are introduced to Gideon, the people of Israel have been under attack by a neighboring people. They were at war, and God tells Gideon he is going to be the one God is going to use. So here is our first example of how Gideon had things go not according to his plan. He had not planned on leading people.

The second example occurs after Gideon is leading the army. God tells him to make an announcement to the troops that anyone who is scared can go home. Scripture tells us, "Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained." That's a big cut in your fighting force! I'm sure Gideon would have preferred to fight with the 22,000. But God was not done yet. Just as Gideon is starting to tactically wrap his mind around these new numbers, God speaks again, this time cutting the forces down to just 300 people.

If I had been in Gideon's shoes, I may have just run away myself. Often times, I find myself going, "God, I just don't understand!" But I have to trust that while it may not always be fun, God always has my best interest in mind. Knowing He has a plan for me and is working for my good is the reason I choose to follow His plans.

## LEVEL UP

**Jeremiah 29:11-14** *"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile."*

**Proverbs 16:8-10** *"Better is a little with righteousness than great revenues with injustice. The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. An oracle is on the lips of a king; his mouth does not sin in judgment."*

## MOD

**Ask: What is an example of God wanting you to change or do something in your life that just did not make sense to you? Did you do what you felt God was telling you, or did you go the opposite way?**

## PRAY

Ask for prayer requests, and then pray for everyone to be listening and willing to go with the plans God has for them.

## THE NEXT LEVEL

Read Judges 6-7 as a group.

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