

# SRMBC Family Bible Study

# OVERCOMER

WHAT DO YOU ALLOW TO DEFINE YOU?

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## Session 1 Who Are You?

“Who are you really?” It’s a fundamental question we all have to answer. Our first instinct may be to **respond with a name. After that we tend to share a résumé of what we do or whom we’re related to.** Should we define ourselves by the members of our family or even by what other people say about us? Maybe who we are is something deeper.

Enter “Overcomer”. Regardless of the intention with which you approach this Bible Study, the goal is a definitive answer to the basic question “Who are you?”

**Watch Movie Clip:** *Who Are You?* (2:20)



### Questions

- What bad news does John receive in this segment?
- Do you feel that John’s reaction is normal or too severe considering that situation?
- What is John forced to give up, and what’s he asked to assume responsibly for?

Basketball coach John Harrison enters Principal Olivia Brooks’ office and learns that the football program has been terminated. The main factory in town has closed its doors, eliminating more than five thousand jobs. This closure is shrinking the town and crushing high-school enrollment. Without enough players, athletic programs are being cut.

Olivia sees an opportunity to salvage the cross-country team by having John take over. In his mind cross country isn’t even a real sport. But John is given the responsibility, and it begins to unravel his identity.

### **Read Exodus 2:10 – 22.**

1. List all the character traits and titles that apply to Moses?

Hebrew Slave By heritage	Fearful
Egyptian Prince/Heir	Fugitive/Felon
Grown Man	Avenger/Gentleman
Compassionate/Confident	Principled
Self-Assured	Humble
Avenger/Murderer	Husband Father
Overseer/Judge	Hard-Worker
	Grateful

## **Read Exodus 3:1 – 6, 9 – 14**

2. What do these verses reveal about Moses' identity?

- Moses is no longer a "Know –It – All". He sees a sight greater than he is
- He is known By God - By Name
- He is no longer self-assured afraid of Pharaoh – He fears God
- He has a calling and the Assurance God will be with Him
- He is completely humble in the sight of God (who am I?)
- He will indeed deliver the Israelites from Egypt – but under God's Authority and Power (**IAM that IAM**).

What Changes him and changes us is a real encounter with the One True God

## **Read Judges 6:6 - 16**

3. What are the similarities and differences you see between Gideon and Moses

### **Similarities**

- Both were of Israelite people oppressed by foreigners
- Both were fearful of the enemy
- Both were humble in the sight of God
- Both had specific encounters with the Angel of the Lord
- Both were promised to have the Lord with them.
- Both were called to deliver their people

### **Differences**

- One was raised in Royalty (Moses) one was not (Gideon)
  - Gideon was called a mighty man of valor
  - Gideon was to fight the Midianites as one man
  - Moses asked the Name of God – Gideon seemed to already know.
  - How has God through His Word or His Spirit, ever called you to be more than you thought possible? How did you respond?
4. How does the identity we build or clam for ourselves hinder our willingness to be all that God has intended us to be?
- When I was Called to each the Bible (Sunday School) I was excited – I jumped at the chance and put my all in to into it and had joy and success
  - When I was called to the Ministry/Pastorate – I ran and pretended I didn't really hear and made a total mess out of my life
  - Things got worse – before they got better after submitting to His will – but I am glad to Be in the Service – One more Time!

An important exercise for any Christ follower is to compose a Gospel testimony. A basic formula is to answer the following three questions. Take time to answer these:

- What was your life like before Christ?

I was a rebellious sinner – indulging in all types of sinful behaviors (sex, drinking, cursing). I wasn't even a worshipper of God didn't know His Word. I was always Sad and depressed – without any real hope.

- How did you encounter and begin to trust Christ?

I first had an encounter while in Saudi Arabia – the 1st Desert Storm. The chaplain preached with such power and conviction. One evening while in Iraq preparing for the ground war I prayed to God and asked Him if he could cause a Cease -fire. And there was a cease fire called that evening and saved the lives of my company. When I got back to FT. Campbell KY, a couple of guys took me to a church not far from the base -where I heard the Word – that convicted me of my sin and the Gospel that showed me – Jesus my Savior I repented and received Salvation. I will never forget -as soon as I got back to the barracks – I could hear the profanity the other soldiers were using – realizing I used the same language and it sickened me. After getting out of the Army – I joined my Mom's Church Greenwood Baptist Church in Philadelphia PA where I was Baptized.

- What's your life like now as a follower of Christ?

Wow! My life has totally changed (Although I am not and haven't been perfect) I know the Lord and have discovered how to pray. I know I am accepted and forgiven and in the Family of God. I love and know His Word – yet I am still learning every day. I love church and worshipping God alone – but especially with God's people. I am Confident of being with Jesus in heaven when I die. God has given the honor and privilege of preaching and teaching the Gospel of Jesus and leading a congregation of believer as a Pastor of a local Baptist Church. I have troubles and heartaches – yet I can have joy because of my relationship with Jesus Christ.

### **Overcomer's Prayer**

*Dear Heavenly Father, I need You. I thank You that You have forgiven all my sins through Christ's death on the cross for me.*

*I now ask Jesus Christ to take His rightful place on the throne of my life once again.*

*Empower me with your Holy Spirit To Live for You  
as You promised You would do if I asked in faith.*

*I pray this in the name of Jesus. Amen.*