

February 16, 2020  
*Life Group Discussion Suggestions for*  
**“Competition and the Glory of God**  
**Isaiah 42:8**

1. If you've ever been disrespected or demoted, how did that make you feel?
  - Imagine how God feels when people do that to Him
2. God is jealous of what belongs to Him (Ex. 20:5). He demands exclusive service and is righteously jealous of any rivals.
  - How would you feel if you had a rival for your spouse's attention and affections?
  - That righteous jealousy is similar to God's attitude and desire for the sole affections of one who belongs to Him. It's sobering to think that we could be cheating on God!
3. Some proudly competed with God and were punished accordingly (see Is. 14:12-15; Gen. 11:1-4; Dan. 4:30-37 and Acts 12:20-23). Proverbs 16:18 tells us that “pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling.”
  - Can you think of other biblical examples of pride?
  - Are there other examples of pride in your life or the life of others that come to mind and demonstrate this principle?
4. Deuteronomy 6:4-9 tells us to love God (5) and influence our children (6-9)
  - How do we love God with all of our heart, soul and might?
  - How do we influence our children and grandchildren to have a heart for God?
  - If there is a lack of these elements, how is it affecting our church?
5. Isaiah 44:14-20 describes the folly of worshipping a block of wood.
  - What other types of worthless things do people do to gain favor with God?
  - What are some silly things that people do to bring them “good luck?”
6. How do you feel about an angry God who destroys those who dishonor and disobey Him?
  - See II Thess. 1:8-9
7. What are some Scripture passages that are particularly helpful to you and encourage your personal worship of God?
8. It's hard to pass the praise given to us back to God. What are some ways you seek to do that?