

Gideon

Judges 6-8

1. Greet those at your table and introduce yourself. If you could have an unlimited supply of one thing, what would it be?

2. Read Judges 6:1-6. Israel has returned to doing “evil in the sight of the Lord”. In verse 1, how did God deal with Israel’s disobedience?

Describe ways the Midianites oppressed the Israelites. How would the Midianite raids affect daily life in Israel?

3. Read 6:11-16. Who is Gideon and where is he hiding in verse 11?

How does the Angel of the Lord refer to Gideon in verse 12? Even though Gideon is hiding, why might the Lord give Gideon this title?

What great task is the Lord asking of Gideon and how does Gideon respond?

What assurance does the Lord give Gideon in 6:12,16?

4. Read 7:1-7. Gideon has recruited an army of 32,000 men for battle. What two ways does the Lord alter the size of Gideon’s army?

What might Gideon feel as God is reducing his army?

Reread verse 7:2,7. How is Gideon’s faith being tested and strengthened by the Lord?

Share a time in your life when your faith has been tested. Where did you go to find strength in those times?

5. Gideon is preparing his army for battle against the Midianites. Read 7:15-22. What three ordinary things did the Israelites use as weapons? Describe the battle plan and how each “weapon” is used.

Who defeated the Midianites in verse 22?

6. Read 8:22-27. How does Gideon respond to the victory over the Midianites? Thinking back to Deborah’s response to victory, how should Gideon have responded?

7. Despite Gideon’s sin and weak faith, he chose to trust God to deliver Israel out of oppression. Read 8:28. What did God give the Israelites during Gideon’s life? How does God’s relationship with Gideon encourage you?

*Amazing Grace- The Era of Judges
Women in the Word- June 9-10, 2021*

Gideon
Reluctant Leader, Mighty God
Judges 6-8

TWO NATIONS 6:1-10

- *Midian: Raided Israel for seven years stealing their produce and livestock.
- *Israel: Hid in caves and were “brought low” under Midian’s oppression.
- *Because of Israel’s idol worship, God gave Israel over to the Midianites.

TWO EXCUSES AND TWO AFFIRMATIONS 6:11-16

- *God calls Gideon to save Israel by leading them to battle against the Midianites.
- *Gideon questioned God’s call with two excuses: weakest in his clan and youngest in his family.
- *Two times, God affirms certain victory over the Midianites saying, “I will be with you.”

TWO IDOLS AND TWO ALTARS 6:17-32

- *Gideon builds his first altar acknowledging the Lord as his God.
- *In obedience to the Lord, Gideon destroys the idols to Baal and Asherah.
- *Gideon builds his second altar as public allegiance to the Lord for himself and Israel.

TWO TESTS 6:33-7:14

- *Gideon calls men throughout Manasseh to build his army of 32,000 men.
- *Gideon tests the Lord two times using a dry and wet fleece.
- *The Lord tests Gideon two times by reducing his army from 32,000 to 300.

TWO BATTLES 7:16-23, 8:18-28

- *Using trumpets, torches and clay jars, Gideon’s army of 300 men defeated 135,000 Midianites.
- *Gideon increases his army and leads a second battle to avenge his brother’s death.
- *Gideon makes an image from the spoils of war bringing idol worship back to Israel.

_____ *in faith and accept the task God has called you to.*

_____ *the Lord is with you; He will help you and with His help you will not fail.*

_____ *the challenges, knowing God is using them to increase your trust in Him.*

_____ *strong! Don’t let the temptation of old habits distract you.*

_____ *God the glory for all He has accomplished through you.*

Key: Step out, Know, Embrace, Finish, Give

Amazing Grace – Gideon Judges 6-8
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JOSHUA 1:5b “Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will not leave you nor forsake you.”

JOSHUA 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”

PSALM 56:3-4 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?

2 CORINTHIANS 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

HEBREWS 11:32-33a And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises . . .

ROMANS 7:15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate.

PSALM 119:9-11 How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you.