

GIDEON THE MIGHTY WARRIOR ☆

A story of a mighty warrior named Gideon, who trusted the Lord to defeat a powerful enemy. Gideon learned that nothing is impossible with God. (Judges 6-7)

TOPICS:

Courage, Faith, Gideon, Power of God, Protection

DURATION:

Approximately 12 minutes

Gideon didn't notice at first when the angel of the Lord came to sit down under the big oak tree. He was busy threshing and hiding the wheat so the Midianites would not find it. If they did, they would surely steal it from Gideon.



See, the Israelites were not honoring God as they should. Some were even worshipping other gods. Because of this, God allowed the Midianites to come and take their land and their property. The Israelites became poor and helpless. Before long, they were ready to honor God again. This is when the angel of the Lord came to Gideon.

Gideon stopped suddenly. Something nearby caught his eye.

"The Lord is with you mighty Warrior!"

He turned around to see an angel of the Lord speaking to him. He paused for a moment, then said, "But if that is true, why are all of these bad things happening to us?"

"Go with the strength you have. I am sending you to save Israel from the hands of the Midianites," the angel of the Lord replied.

Gideon didn't think he was the right person for the job. His family was small, and he was too young. He wanted a sign, to know for sure he was talking to the angel of the Lord.

The angel agreed and waited while Gideon went to get meat and bread for an offering. When he returned, the angel of the Lord had him place the offering on a pile of rocks. Then, the angel touched the meat and bread with his staff. The rocks caught fire. The fire completely burned up the offering. Now, Gideon knew for sure he was really talking with the Lord.

A day or so later, Gideon tested God again. This time to make sure he was really supposed to fight the enemy. He placed a wool fleece on the floor and said to God, "If in the morning, only the fleece is wet, and the ground is dry, then I will know I am supposed to save Israel from the hands of the Midianites." The next morning, Gideon got up to see what happened. Sure enough, the fleece was soaking wet, but the ground around it was completely dry.

"Let me ask one more thing," Gideon said to the Lord. "This time, let the fleece be completely dry, and the ground around it be all wet." The next morning, Gideon got up to find that the Lord did exactly what he asked again. The fleece was dry as a bone, but the ground was covered with dew.

The very next day, Gideon and his men went out and set up camp close to the enemy's camp. He still felt his army was too small and weak to fight the Midianites, but he also knew that with God, nothing is impossible. Then, the Lord said to Gideon, "You have way too many men!"

The Lord told Gideon to tell everyone who trembled in fear when told of the great battle ahead, to go back home. Twenty-two thousand men trembled in fear, and returned home. Now Gideon only had ten thousand men left. The Lord said, "You still have way too many men."

Next, the Lord had Gideon take the men down to a nearby stream for a drink. Everyone who got down on their knees to lap the water with their tongue, like a dog, had to go back to their tents. Only the men who brought the water up to their mouths with their hands would stay to fight. Now, Gideon only had 300 men. Fighting such a large Midianite army with only 300 men seemed impossible; however, with God, nothing is impossible.

The enemy camp was not far ahead. That night, the Lord told Gideon to go into battle. But this battle would be different. Gideon divided the 300 men into three groups. He gave them all trumpets and empty jars. Inside the jars were torches. He took 100 men with him, and the other 200 helped to surround the enemy camp.

"Watch and follow what I do," Gideon told his men. "When I and those with me get close to the edge of the enemy camp, we will blow our trumpets, and you do the same." As soon as Gideon reached the edge of camp, everyone blew their trumpets, broke the jars and lit the torches. The noise of the trumpets and breaking jars caused much confusion for the enemy.

Gideon's army then shouted, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" However, Gideon had no weapons. He only had 300 trumpets and 300 torches. Still, the Midianites ran and cried as they fled. They became so frightened; they turned on each other with their own swords. In this way, the enemy was defeated. Gideon and his men witnessed something great that day. With God, nothing is impossible.

THE END

For discussion questions see, **Gideon Defeats the Enemy (Lesson)** [Click here](#)

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SPECIAL PEOPLE OF THE BIBLE (OT)

LESSON 2: GIDEON DEFEATS THE ENEMY ☆

Lessons in this series: [1](#) [2](#) [3](#) [4](#) [5](#) [6](#) [Overview](#)

In this lesson, the children will learn how Gideon defeated a huge army with only 300 men. Although he was far outnumbered, Gideon knew that with God, all things are possible.

TOPICS

Believing, Courage, Following God, Gideon, Protection

AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

Gideon at the Edge of Camp (Coloring Page) [Click here](#)

WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

BIBLE VERSE (5 MINUTES)

"As for God, his way is perfect: The Lord's word is flawless; he shields all who take refuge in him."

Psalm 18:30 NIV

Help the children understand that God is able to do anything. Sometimes we don't get what we want, even when we ask God, but that is not because He can't do it. Nothing is impossible for God. God knows what is best for us and gives us what we need so we can come closer to Him. The Bible is full of stories about the awesome power of God.

BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

After the introduction, read the children's version of the story. As an option, you can read the story about Gideon directly from the Bible.

Introduction:

Our story takes place during a time when God's people were not honoring Him. Some even worshipped other gods. Because of this, God allowed an enemy called the Midianites to come and take everything from His people. The Midianites took their land. They took their animals. They even took their food. God's people were ruined. Finally, they cried out to the Lord for help. God heard their cries and decided to save His people through a young warrior named Gideon. As we read our story, we will see how Gideon learns that with God, nothing is impossible.

Gideon the Mighty Warrior (Story) [Click here](#)
(Option) Read Judges 6:11-16, 36-40; 7:1-22 (Gideon)

Discussion Questions:

1. Who appeared to Gideon under the big oak tree? (*The angel of the Lord.*)
2. When Gideon asked for a sign, what did the angel of the Lord do to the rocks? (*He made them catch on fire.*)
3. Did Gideon also test the Lord two times with a fleece? (*Yes.*)
4. What happened with the fleece? (*The first time, the fleece was wet and the ground was dry, the second time the fleece was dry and the ground was wet.*)
5. Did God choose the men who lapped up the water like a dog, or the men who brought the water up to their mouths using their hands to stay with Gideon? (*The men who used their hands.*)
6. How many men were finally left in Gideon's army to fight the battle? (*300*)
7. What three items did Gideon and his army use to confuse the enemy? (*A horn, a jar, and a torch.*)
8. What did Gideon and his men do with the jars they were carrying? (*They broke them and lit the torches found inside.*)
9. Do you think Gideon was afraid when he went to fight such a large army with only 300 men? Why? (*No, Gideon knew that with God, nothing is impossible.*)

FUN TIME (15 MINUTES)

Still Too Many (Game) [Click here](#)

PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

For today's snack, have horns and torches. For horns, bring a box of Bugles® corn snacks from General Mills. These look similar to a ram's horns. For torches, use pretzel sticks and put a miniature marshmallow on one end. After thanking God, have the children retell the story of Gideon in their own words while they enjoy the treats.

CLOSING ACTIVITY (5-10 MINUTES)

Gideon Picture Story (Activity) [PDF] [Click here](#)

NEXT WEEK

Come back next week to learn about more special people in the Bible.

TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

*Circle the pictures that were mentioned in our story today.
Draw an "X" over the others.*

