

# GOD USES GIDEON

JUDGES 6:1-2, 6:12-16, 7:2-7, 7:16-20

## LEARN THE WORD

### Psalm 34:17-18

*When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.*

- God chose Gideon to lead the Israelites. Gideon had doubts and fears, but God promised to be with him.
- God defeated the Midianites using Gideon and just 300 men armed with trumpets, jars, and torches.

## WHAT YOU HEARD IN THE WORD

## OUTWORD FOR FAMILY DISCUSSION

Suppose you heard someone call Gideon a great general because of what he did in the battle against the Midianites.

### What could you say?

*Gideon did obey God. But only God could have won that battle using Gideon and just 300 men with trumpets, jars, and torches against so many Midianites. Gideon had to trust God and follow His instructions, but God won the battle and should get the glory for the victory. Gideon was an ordinary man that God used to accomplish His purpose. Gideon was afraid when God first called him to fight, but God promised to be with him. God protected Gideon and used him to save the Israelites because they cried out to Him for deliverance.*

**Activity:** Use the word bank to unscramble words from today's lesson.

1. <b>MYRA</b> _ _ _ _ _
2. <b>RODL</b> _ _ _ _ _
3. <b>MTEUPRT</b> _ _ _ _ _
4. <b>EDGNOI</b> _ _ _ _ _
5. <b>EYBO</b> _ _ _ _ _
6. <b>ORICVYT</b> _ _ _ _ _
7. <b>RAJS</b> _ _ _ _ _
8. <b>RESCTOH</b> _ _ _ _ _

JARS	LORD
TRUMPET	GIDEON
VICTORY	TORCHES
ARMY	OBEY

## HOMESWORD FOR PARENTS

Judges 6, the Israelites were once again doing evil in the sight of the Lord by worshipping idols, so God allowed them to be oppressed by the Midianites. They finally cried out to Him for help (Judges 6:7). The Lord heard their cry and appeared to Gideon, a man hiding from the Midianites in a winepress (Judges 6:11). Gideon revealed his fear and lack of trust in the Lord when God called him to save Israel, but God promised to be with him (Judges 6:13-16).

When the Midianites returned to Israel with a huge army, many Israelite men rallied to Gideon. But God gave Gideon instructions to reduce the number of men who would participate in the battle. First, any who were afraid were allowed to leave. Next, God directed Gideon to divide the remaining men according to how they drank water from the river. Gideon's fighting force went from 32,000 to 300 (Judges 7:6). God wanted the victory of this battle to point to Him alone as the deliverer.

Gideon's men surrounded the Midianite camp armed with trumpets, jars, and torches. At Gideon's signal, they blew the trumpets, smashed the jars, raised their torches, and shouted! God caused the Midianites to panic and turn on each other before fleeing. God won the battle with His power and Gideon's obedience.

God used Gideon to accomplish a great victory against a fearsome opponent. Gideon was obedient and proved to be strong, due to the Lord's strength in him. Gideon was the fifth and one of the greatest judges of Israel. Because of his faith in the Lord, he is mentioned with the great and faithful saints in Hebrews 11.