



MAY 4, 2025

# GIDEON LED ISRAEL

JUDGES 6-8

## CHRIST CONNECTION

The Israelites needed Gideon to help them. We need help, too. God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us and save us from our sins forever.

## BIG PICTURE QUESTION

What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

## MEMORY VERSE

My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:19**

# PREPARE



Take time to reflect  
on today's lesson.

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

The story of Gideon in Judges 6–8 reveals the power of God at work in the lives of His people and how victory belongs to Him alone. God's call on Gideon's life demonstrates how the Lord often chooses what is weak to shame the strong (1 Corinthians 1:27).

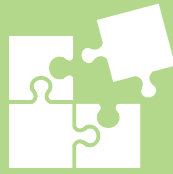
Why would God choose to drastically limit the number of Gideon's soldiers in battle? How does God's provision in this story point to an even greater salvation—our hope in Christ?

Once again, the Israelites had committed themselves to doing evil in the sight of the Lord. The Lord allowed the Midianites to rule over His people as a consequence for their sin. Yet, God again acted mercifully as He responded to their cries for deliverance in the face of oppression. God graciously sent a prophet to His people to remind them of the faithful love He had shown them since their days in Egypt. He urged them to remember His covenant with His people.

God called Gideon to be a judge for the Israelites and to deliver them from Midian. Not wanting His people to claim victory on behalf of their own strength, God told Gideon to pare down his troops. God showed His power by limiting the Israelites' manpower in battle. This way, they could only attribute their victory to the Lord's goodness on their behalf. Gideon and his army of 300 had no logical way of winning a battle against so many Midianite troops. Yet, God proved He is Lord over creation and the One who pursues His people and delivers them unto Himself.

God provided salvation to His people by delivering them from the hand of the Midianites, but even more, He has provided eternal deliverance to all who trust in His Son for salvation. In the battle against sin and death, we—like the Israelites—have no means of securing victory on our own. Yet through Jesus, the battle is already won. Lead boys and girls to see God's ability to make a way where there is no way, as well as His heart for sinners who deserve death. May the children walk forward in faith, trusting in the Lord for His victory over sin and death.

# OPENING & ACTIVITIES



Connect with children through games and activities.

## WELCOME

Play music in the background as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

### ACTIVITY #1: SING A SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “This is the Way”:

My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
supply all your needs, supply all your needs.  
My God, my God will supply all your needs,  
all your needs in Christ Jesus.

*(Repeat)*

### CONNECT THE DOTS



Our memory verse phrase says, “My God will supply all your needs in Christ Jesus.” In our story today, God sent Gideon to help the Israelites. We need help, too. We need God to save us from our sins. God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us and save us forever.

### CONNECT THE DOTS



Gideon asked God for a sign. He was scared of what God had asked him to do. Gideon had trouble believing God was asking him to lead the people. Gideon asked God to make the wool wet and the ground dry. Then he asked God to make the wool dry and the ground wet. This proved God was helping Gideon lead the people. We can trust God to help us do what He asks us to do. Gideon's victory came from God!

### ACTIVITY #2: WET VS DRY

Gather the provided pairs of absorbent items (e.g., washcloths, paper towels, etc.). Lightly moisten one item in each pair and keep the matching item dry. Arrange them on one of the tables in your room.

Invite children to explore the various items and talk about them together. Remind children of Gideon's requests to God about the wool being wet and the ground dry, and then the wool dry and the ground wet.



## GIDEON LED ISRAEL

Over and over again, God's people—the Israelites—chose to not listen to God. They kept doing things that made God sad. So God let their enemies, the Midianites, rule over them.

The Midianites were not nice; they took the Israelites' food and animals. God's people felt sad and remembered how happy they were when they followed God's rules. They said to God, "Please save us!"

One day, an angel came to a man named Gideon. The angel said, "God is with you, brave warrior!" The angel said God was sending Gideon to save the Israelites from their enemies. But Gideon was scared. His family was not very strong, and Gideon was the youngest. But God promised to help Gideon.

Gideon asked God for a sign. He put soft sheep's wool on the ground. If it was wet with dew but the ground was dry, Gideon would know God was helping. And that is what happened! Then Gideon asked for the ground to be wet and the wool to be dry. That happened too.

God told Gideon to only take 300 soldiers with him. That night, Gideon and his small army went to the Midianite camp. They made noise and broke some jars. The Midianites got scared and ran away! God's people were happy. They told Gideon, "You saved us! Be our king!"

But Gideon said, "God saved you. He is the real King."

## CHRIST CONNECTION

The Israelites needed Gideon to help them. We need help, too. God sent His Son, Jesus, to help us and save us from our sins forever.



# SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

## SNACK & DISCUSSION

**Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show children the Bible story picture as you ask the following questions and retell parts of the story as needed.**

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible story?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible story?
3. Who was the judge in our story today, and what did he do?
4. What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

## CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Pick up toys and games from around the room and put them away. After the room is cleaned up, set out markers or crayons and let children work on today's Bible story coloring page or activity page until their parents arrive.

You can also choose a book to read to children as they work or for those who don't want to work. Please make the effort to have children quietly engaged in the last few minutes of the service. When parents arrive to pick up their child, share about something their child enjoyed doing or did well today.

## BEFORE YOU GO...

**Second hour leaders, please clean up by doing the following:**

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in the room.
5. Return storage cubes to Rm 108.

**THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!**