

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **August 15, 2021** Family Theme | **God Calls Ordinary People** Study Text | **Judges 7:1-23**

Objective: Help children understand God used a reluctant Gideon and only 300 men to miraculously defeat a vast Midianite led army. We confidently obey when God leads, trusting God to use us for His glory.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set around 1150 BC during the time of the judges between the death of Joshua and the rise of the monarchy. God called Gideon to deliver Israel from the Midianites.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. What does the Eighth Commandment mean? Answer: The Eighth Commandment (Exodus 20:15) teaches that private ownership must be respected and not violated in any way.

Read the Word: Judges 7:1-23

Disciple Your Kids

Help your children and grandchildren understand that God uses ordinary people like Gideon to accomplish what He wants to do in this world. We can all serve God and trust Him to help us do His will.



Key Truth: God Is the True Source of Our Success (Judges 7:1-8)

God was about to accomplish an amazing victory for the Israelites. He would do it on His terms, however, so they could not boast of their own strength or gloat in their military achievements. In order to achieve this, the Lord would whittle the size of the Israelite army down to where they were vastly outnumbered. Only God could accomplish such an impossible victory against a vast army, and all the glory would go to Him.



Key Truth: God Encourages and Strengthens Us When We Need It (Judges 7:9-15)

Going to battle with only three hundred men was an understandably fearful prospect for Gideon. God chose to encourage and strengthen Gideon's faith. God divinely orchestrated a Midianite's dreams, the timing of a meeting, a precise location, an apparent passing conversation, and an interpretation, in such a fashion that it produced courage in the heart of Gideon. In response, Gideon worshiped. God was doing an amazing work and only He deserved the credit and glory. God is patient with us and provides us the encouragement and resources to serve Him.



Key Truth: God Does Amazing Things When We Trust and Obey Him (Judges 7:16-23)

Every aspect of this battle plan, from the small army to the clay pots, was designed to bring glory to God. No military leader, regardless of how wise or skilled that person may have been, would have come up with a battle plan like this one. Gideon divided the men into three companies to give the impression they were surrounding the enemy, and then he sent them out with trumpets and jars with torches inside them. Gideon and his men began blowing the trumpets and smashing the jars to reveal the light of their torches. In the

dark, this would have seemed like thousands of fighting men, rather than 300. The confused Midianites began killing each other. As we trust God and step out in faith to obey Him, He gives us victory.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- How does God sometimes work in unusual ways in our lives?
- How does it feel to know God can use you to bring Him glory, even if you feel ordinary?
- What will you do to bring God glory this week?
- **For Elementary:** How did God work in unusual ways to give Gideon and the Israelites victory against the huge Midianite-led army?
- **For Elementary:** Why is it important to trust God's ways and power even when we do not understand what He is doing?

Everyday Extras

What do Wilbur, Babe, Clifford, Shade, Fiver, and Cadpig all have in common? They were (fictional) runts of the litter. Though they were small, they became the unlikely heroes of their stories. Can your family match each of those names to a story you've read or watched? [*Charlotte's Web*, *Babe* (the movie), *Clifford the Big Red Dog*, *Silverwing*, *Watership Down*, *101 Dalmatians* (the series and the novel)] What about the shepherd boy, David?

Gideon was an unlikely hero too. God chose him to lead a battle against the Midianites, even though he was not brave and strong. Sometimes we are fooled by people who are big or popular or wealthy or attractive. But God sees what we cannot see. He chooses what we would not choose. He has a plan for everyone who will trust Him!

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned God sent some of Gideon's men home. Gideon only had 300 men to help him battle the Midianites. Gideon and his men defeated the Midianites; instead of a weapon, they each had only a trumpet and a clay jar with a burning torch in it. Gideon trusted God, and **I Can Trust God** too.