

Right in the Eye

Part 5—How to Make a Difference

The People God Uses

1. _____ People.

Judges 6:15—¹⁵“But Lord,” Gideon replied, “how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!” (NLT)

1 Samuel 16:7—⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (NLT)

2. _____ People.

Judges 6:24a—²⁴And Gideon built an altar to the Lord there and named it Yahweh-Shalom (which means “the Lord is peace”). . . (NLT)

2 Chronicles 16:9a—⁹The eyes of the Lord search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to him. . . (NLT)

3. _____ People.

Judges 6:36-40—³⁶Then Gideon said to God, “If you are truly going to use me to rescue Israel as you promised, ³⁷prove it to me in this way. I will put a wool fleece on the threshing floor tonight. If the fleece is wet with dew in the morning but the ground is dry, then I will know that you are going to help me rescue Israel as you promised.” ³⁸And that is just what happened. When Gideon got up early the next morning, he squeezed the fleece and wrung out a whole bowlful of water. ³⁹Then Gideon said to God, “Please don’t be angry with me,

but let me make one more request. Let me use the fleece for one more test. This time let the fleece remain dry while the ground around it is wet with dew.” ⁴⁰So that night God did as Gideon asked. The fleece was dry in the morning, but the ground was covered with dew. (NLT)

Matthew 12:39—³⁹But Jesus replied, “Only an evil, adulterous generation would demand a miraculous sign; but the only sign I will give them is the sign of the prophet Jonah.” (NLT)

4. _____ People.

Judges 7:1-3—¹So Jerub-baal (that is, Gideon) and his army got up early and went as far as the spring of Harod. The armies of Midian were camped north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. ²The Lord said to Gideon, “You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength. ³Therefore, tell the people, ‘Whoever is timid or afraid may leave this mountain and go home.’” So 22,000 of them went home, leaving only 10,000 who were willing to fight. (NLT)

Deuteronomy 20:8—⁸“Then the officers will also say, ‘Is anyone here afraid or worried? If you are, you may go home before you frighten anyone else.’” (NLT)

5. _____ People.

Judges 7:4-7—⁴But the Lord told Gideon, “There are still too many! Bring them down to the spring, and I will test them to determine who will go with you and who will not.” ⁵When Gideon took his warriors down to the water, the Lord told him, “Divide the men into two groups. In one group put all those who cup water in their hands and lap it up with their tongues like dogs. In the other group put all those who kneel

down and drink with their mouths in the stream.” ⁶Only 300 of the men drank from their hands. All the others got down on their knees and drank with their mouths in the stream. ⁷The Lord told Gideon, “With these 300 men I will rescue you and give you victory over the Midianites. Send all the others home.” (NLT)

¹ Peter 5:8—⁸Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. (NLT)

6. _____ People.

Judges 7:21-22—²¹Every man stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled. ²²When they blew the 300 trumpets, the Lord set every man’s sword against his comrade and against all the army. And the army fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, as far as the border of Abel-meholah, by Tabbath. (ESV)

¹ Corinthians 15:58—⁵⁸Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. (NIV)

¹ Corinthians 16:13—¹³Be on guard. Stand firm in the faith. Be courageous. Be strong. (NLT)

Action Step . . .

- Rebellion & Rescue: A 22-day reading plan through the Book of Judges <https://www.bible.com/reading-plans/25508-rebellion-a-study-in-judges>

