

For Class Interaction and Discussion

Lesson Outline

1. Understanding the Role of Judges:

- The Chaotic Era of Judges

2. Gideon's Humble Beginnings:

- Gideon's Doubt and God's Call

- Gideon's Tests and Obedience

3. Leading an Unconventional Army:

4. Lessons for Our Lives:

Thought Questions for Discussion

1. How does the term "judge" in the book of Judges differ from the modern understanding of a judge? What responsibilities did these judges have beyond legal matters?
2. What does it mean when the Bible says, "Everyone did what was right in his own eyes" during the time of the Judges? How can a lack of centralized authority impact a society?
3. How did Gideon's initial response to God's call reveal his doubts and insecurities? Have you ever felt inadequate when facing a significant challenge or decision?
4. Gideon asked for signs to confirm God's guidance. Why is it important to trust God's Word and not constantly seek signs or miracles in our own lives? What can excessive doubt and the need for signs indicate?
5. Consider God's decision to reduce Gideon's army to just 300 men. What might be the significance of this action? How does it illustrate the importance of relying on God's strength rather than our own in times of difficulty?
6. In what ways can Gideon's journey from fear to faith be applied to our own lives? How can we confront doubts and fears with trust in God's presence and promises?

Hebrews 11.32-34

32 And what more can I say? Time is too short for me to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the prophets,

33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions,

34 quenched the raging of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, gained strength in weakness, became mighty in battle, and put foreign armies to flight.

7. Reflect on the idea that God often uses humble and unlikely individuals to accomplish His purposes. How can we recognize the potential for God's work in our own lives, even when we feel weak or inadequate?
8. How can we ensure that we give God the credit for our victories and successes, rather than attributing them solely to our own efforts?
9. Consider the concept of trusting in God's peace to face challenges boldly, as Gideon did. How can this trust in God's peace help us in our daily lives when confronting fears and uncertainties?
10. What practical steps can we take to apply the lessons from Gideon's story to our own faith journey? How can we move from fear and doubt to trust and obedience in our relationship with God?

Group Activity

Group Discussion: Divide into small groups and discuss a challenging situation or decision you currently face. What are your doubts and uncertainties? Together, brainstorm a few ways group participants can trust in God's guidance and overcome doubt.

Walking with God Today

Gideon's story teaches us that God can work through our doubts and weaknesses. Like Gideon, we may face moments of insecurity, but when we submit to God's call and trust in His strength, we can achieve victories for His glory. Remember that God often chooses the humble and unlikely to accomplish great things. Let us acknowledge His presence and power in our lives, even in times of uncertainty, and step forward in faith and obedience.