



TRANSFORMING TRUTH

Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.

The Counterintuitive God

From the Series,
"What Is God Like?"

Judges 6:11-16
Preached 6/31/15
Meadow Baptist Church

1. God Chooses The Fearful To Be His Fighters (11-12)

- a. An atmosphere of hardship (11) - "Now the angel of the Lord came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites."
- b. An announcement of hope (12) - "And the angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, O mighty man of valor."

2. God Allows The Worriers To Become His Warriors (13-14)

- a. Worrying over what he was seeing (13a) - "And Gideon said to him, "Please, sir, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us?"
- b. Worrying over what he was not seeing (13b) - "And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?'
- c. Worrying over the future outcome (13c) - "But now the Lord has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian."
- d. Worrying because of misguided focus (14) - "And the Lord turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?"

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3. God Turns Our Protests Into Possibilities (15-16)

- a. Gideon's reluctance (15) - "And he said to Him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house."
- b. God's reassurance (16) - "And the Lord said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man."

4. God Commissions The Cast-Off's To Become Conquerors (1 Cor. 1:25-31)

- a. Who? (25-27) - "For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. 26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;"
- b. Why? (28) - "God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God."
- c. How? (30-31) "And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, 31 so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The life yielded to Jesus Christ will be the vessel through which God moves in heavenly wisdom, holiness, power and purpose.