



Grades 4-5 • Lesson 71

God Uses Gideon

Judges 6:1-2, 6:11-16, 7:2-7, 7:16-22; 1 Corinthians 15:9-10

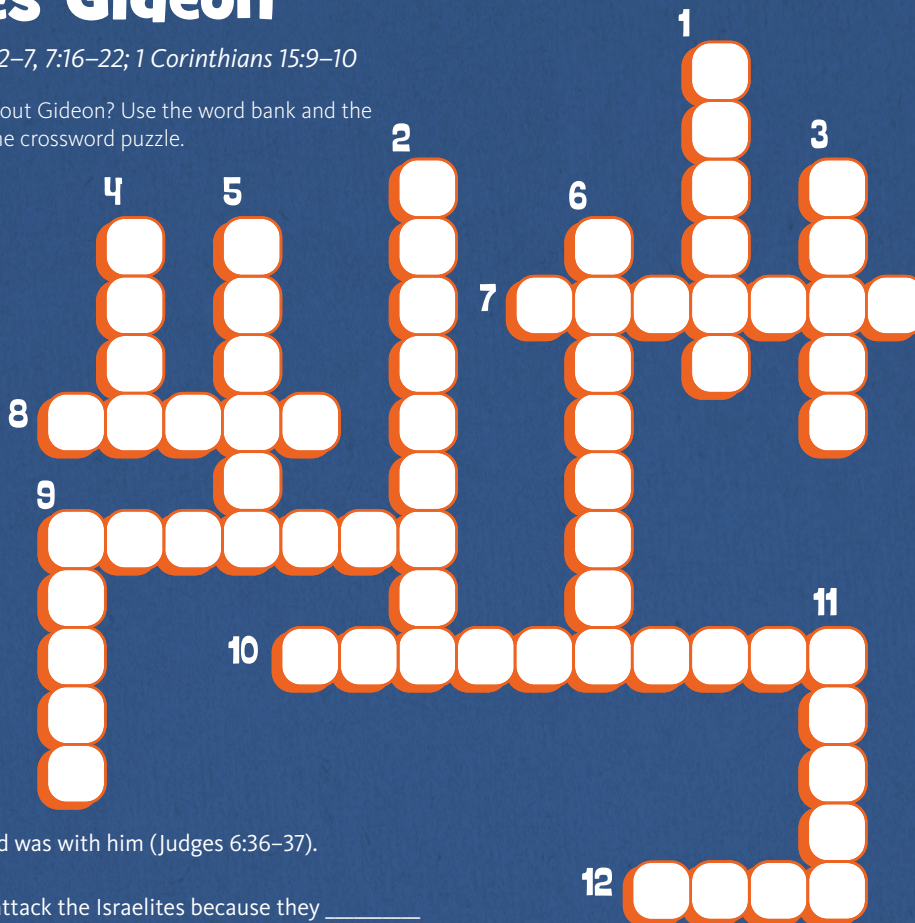
What do you remember about Gideon? Use the word bank and the Bible verses to complete the crossword puzzle.

ACROSS

7. Gideon's men took trumpets, jars, and _____ to the battle (Judges 7:16).
8. God reduced the number of men in Gideon's army to 300 because he wanted the _____ for the victory (Judges 7:2).
9. God won the _____ using Gideon and just 300 men!
10. God called Gideon to save the Israelites from the _____ (Judges 6:14).
12. The Midianites cried out and _____ (Judges 7:21).

DOWN

1. Gideon laid a _____ outside to test if God was with him (Judges 6:36-37).
2. God allowed the Midianites to defeat and attack the Israelites because they _____ him (Judges 6:10).
3. The Lord came to Gideon when he was beating _____ in a winepress (Judges 6:11).
4. Gideon destroyed his father's altar to _____ (Judges 6:25).
5. God sent his _____ to help Gideon (Judges 6:34).
6. Gideon thought that God had _____ them (Judges 6:13).
9. God called Gideon a mighty man of _____ (Judges 6:12).
11. Gideon's men blew their trumpets, smashed the jars, and shouted, "A _____ for the LORD and for Gideon!" (Judges 7:20).



DISOBEYED
WHEAT
VALOR
FORSAKEN
MIDIANITES
BAAL
SPIRIT

FLEECE
GLORY
TORCHES
SWORD
FLED
VICTORY

Across: 7. Torches, 8. Glory, 9. Victory, 10. Midianites, 12. Fled
Down: 1. Fleece, 2. Disobeyed, 3. Wheat, 4. Baal, 5. Spirit, 6. Forsaken, 9. Valor, 11. Sword

Name _____

Memory Verse

Use the code below to fill in the missing letters then read the verse three times.



W__en the righ__eo__s cry



for he__p, the LORD hears and



__elivers them out of all their



tro__bles. The Lo__d is near



to t__e bro__enh__arted



and sa__es the cru__hed in



s__irit. Psalm 34:17-18



What You Heard *In the Word*

- God chose Gideon to lead the Israelites. Gideon had doubts and fears, but God promised to be with him.
- God defeated the Midianites using Gideon and just 300 men armed with trumpets, jars, and torches.

OutWord *For Family Discussion*

Suppose you heard someone call Gideon a great general because of what he did in the battle against the Midianites. **What would you say?**

Gideon did obey God. But only God could have won that battle using Gideon and just 300 men with trumpets, jars, and torches against so many Midianites. Gideon had to trust God and follow his instructions, but God won the battle and should get the glory for the victory. Gideon was an ordinary man that

God used to accomplish his purpose. Gideon was afraid when God first called him to fight, but God promised to be with him. God protected Gideon and used him to save the Israelites because they cried out to him for deliverance.

HomeWord *For Parents*

In Judges 6, the Israelites were once again doing evil in the sight of the Lord by worshipping idols, so God allowed them to be oppressed by the Midianites. They finally cried out to him for help (Judges 6:7). The Lord heard their cry and appeared to Gideon, a man hiding from the Midianites in a winepress (Judges 6:11). Gideon revealed his fear and lack of trust in the Lord when God called him to save Israel, but God promised to be with him (Judges 6:13–16).

When the Midianites returned to Israel with a huge army, many Israelite men rallied to Gideon. But God gave Gideon instructions to reduce the number of men who would participate in the battle. First, any who were afraid were allowed to leave. Next, God directed Gideon to divide the remaining men according to how they drank water from the river. Gideon's fighting force went from 32,000 to 300 (Judges 7:6). God wanted the victory of this battle to point to him alone as the deliverer.

Gideon's men surrounded the Midianite camp armed with trumpets, jars, and torches. At Gideon's signal, they blew the trumpets, smashed the jars, raised their torches, and shouted! God caused the Midianites to panic and turn on each other before fleeing. God won the battle with his power and Gideon's obedience.

God used Gideon to accomplish a great victory against a fearsome opponent. Gideon was obedient and proved to be strong, due to the Lord's strength in him. Gideon was the fifth and one of the greatest judges of Israel. Because of his faith in the Lord, he is mentioned with the great and faithful saints in Hebrews 11.



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