

Q5

BIBLE STORYLINE

Gideon

K -
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Lesson Overview

In today's lesson, we're talking about another judge named Gideon. Remember, God would raise up judges to save the Israelites from other people. At this time, the Israelites had been under attack from the Midianites for seven years! So, God chose Gideon to defeat them. But, Gideon didn't feel equipped to lead the Israelites. In fact, he questioned God for choosing him. Gideon was so sure God was making a mistake that he made God prove his power with a few tests. The first test was Gideon put a piece of wool on the ground overnight. If the wool was wet but the ground was dry in the morning, Gideon would believe God. God did it! But, Gideon still wasn't convinced so he put God to another test. This time, the wool would be dry but the ground would be wet. God did it again! Finally Gideon believed God and led the Israelites into battle. But, God wanted to make sure that Gideon knew that it was because of God that they won the battle. So, Gideon went to battle with only 300 men and no weapons. They won with broken jars and horns! Here's the point. If God is on your side, you can win any battle.

Big Idea

With God on your side, you can win any battle

Key Question

Why did God choose a weak guy like Gideon?

Memory Verse

Judges 7:20 "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!"

Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: Share a time you had to do something that was hard or scary.** (Tip: Maybe you had to give a speech in front of your school or had to have a surgery. Those things can be scary and we may feel like we can't do it. Gideon was scared, too, but God helped him to be brave.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **To prove that God is strong enough to win any battle.**(God chose Gideon to prove that he can use anyone to accomplish his plans. Gideon was small and weak, but with God on his side, he was strong and brave. Even though they were outnumbered and had no weapons, God gave them the victory to prove his power and to remind the Israelites that they should trust in God alone.)
 - **Bonus Questions:** Why did God choose Gideon? Why did God limit Gideon's army? **4-5th** How does this story encourage you when you have to fight hard things in your life?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read [John 16:33](#). Why will we have troubles in this life? Why don't we need to be afraid?** (Answer: The Bible says that due to sin, our world is broken. That's why there is pain and sadness. As long as we live in the world, we will experience hard things. But, the good news is Jesus came to help us and to give us hope. He gives us the power to say no to sin and he gives us the strength we need to face any trial.)
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to pursueGODkids.org to find this week's lesson video.

Teacher instructions: Choose an activity for your classroom.

OPTION 1: GIDEON'S TORCH CRAFT

Instructions:

- Give each kid a small styrofoam cup and a Gideon template (page 5).
- Give each kid some yellow, orange and red tissue paper.
- Have the kids tape or glue the Gideon template around the cup. Then, have them tape or glue red, orange and yellow paper to the inside of the cup to make flames.
- As they work, read the story of Gideon from Judges 6:11-16, 36-40, Judges 7:19-21. Remind the kids that God proved to Gideon that God alone was strong enough to win the battle. God will be strong enough to help us win any battles we face in life, too.

Supplies needed: Small Styrofoam cups (1 per kid), Gideon template (pg. 5, precut, 1 per kid), Red, Yellow and Orange tissue paper, Tape, Glue

OPTION 2: BRAVE IN BATTLE RELAY

Instructions:

- Before playing, tape 4 lines on the floor, two at one end of the room and two at the other end.
- Divide the class into two teams. Give the first person in line a spoon and a ping pong ball. When you say, "Go!", have kids race to the other end of the room and back while keeping their ping pong ball balanced on their spoon. If the ball falls off at any point, the kid has to start over. Continue the race until all the kids have had a chance with the spoon. First team to finish, wins.

Supplies needed: Tape, Spoons (2 per class), Ping Pong Balls (2 per class)

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God sent Gideon into battle with only 300 men, and they won without even using their swords!

Key Points:

- God chose little _____ to rescue his people from the Midianites. Judges 6:14
- Gideon was so _____ that he asked God to prove he was the right guy. Judges 6:17
- God made sure Gideon's army only had _____ men. Judges 7:7
- Gideon's army won without even using their _____! Judges 7:22
- If _____ is on your side you can win any battle.

Memory Verse:

Judges 7:20 A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!

Talk About It

1. *What's your favorite part of the video? What's one thing you learned from it?*
2. *Share a time you had to do something hard or scary.*
3. *Who was Gideon and why was he confused that God had chosen him?*
4. *What did God do to Gideon's army? What happened in the battle with the Midianites?*
5. *Read John 16:33. Why will we have troubles in this life? Why don't we need to be afraid?*
6. *How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?*

Instructions: Color the picture.

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