

Major Event: SETTLEMENT

Lesson 3: Gideon

Scriptures: Judges Chapters 6-8

Central text: Judges 6:12-14

12 The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O valiant warrior." 13 Then Gideon said to him, "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian." 14 The LORD looked at him and said, "Go in this your strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?"

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

- Israel again failed and did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and he gave them over to the hands of the Midianites and Amalekites. The people were forced to live in caves to hide from their enemies. (Judges 6:1- 9)
- When Israel cried to the LORD on account of Midian oppression, the LORD sent another prophet to judge them for their evil deeds for they did not obey the Lord. (Judges 7-10)
- Gideon is visited and called to deliver Israel from the hand of the Midianites by the Angel of the Lord. (Judges 11-24)
- Gideon destroys the altar of Baal and its grove (Judges 6:25-32)
- Gideon desires proof of God's word by the miracle of the fleece. (Judges 6:34-40)
- God's requires Gideon's army to be reduced from 32,000 to 300 men so that the victory would be of God and not of Israel. (Judges 7:1-8)
- Gideon gains a great victory by the hand of the Lord (Judges 7:9 to 8:21)
- The execution of Zebah and Zalmuna, kings of Midian and Amalek (Judges 8:18-23)
- Gideon makes an ephod of gold and Israel made it an idol (Judges 8:24-32)
- Israel again turns from the Lord and does evil. (Judges 8:33-35)

Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:

1. Of God: Righteousness, Justice, Holiness, Veracity, Grace
2. Of Man: Total Dependence on God, Lack of Faithfulness

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home: Psalms 78:1-11; Hebrews 11:32

Notes: Nations who have worshipped God in the past may be disciplined for disobeying God using heathen nations (Isaiah 10:5).

God can use the poorest of human material for His plan (Luke 14:21-23).

With obedience to God's plan, miraculous results can be obtained (Joshua 6:1-20).

If you are working in conformity with God's plan, you have overwhelming superiority, even if from a human viewpoint you appear outnumbered (1 Samuel 17:45).