

GOD CALLED GIDEON
SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: JUDGES 6



The STORY

Read "The Unwilling Hero" from The Children's Bible in 365 Stories (page 105) from Judges 6.

***Please note:** The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- Why did the Israelites live in caves? (The people of Israel forgot about God and were attacked by the Midianites, so they hid in caves.)
- Who visited Gideon? (The Angel of the Lord visited Gideon.)
- What did the Angel of the Lord say to Gideon? (The Angel told Gideon that he was sending him to deliver Israel from the Midianites.)
- How did Gideon feel about this difficult job? (Gideon felt he was not strong enough but the Angel of the Lord assured him that the Lord would make him strong.)

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CRAFT QUESTIONS

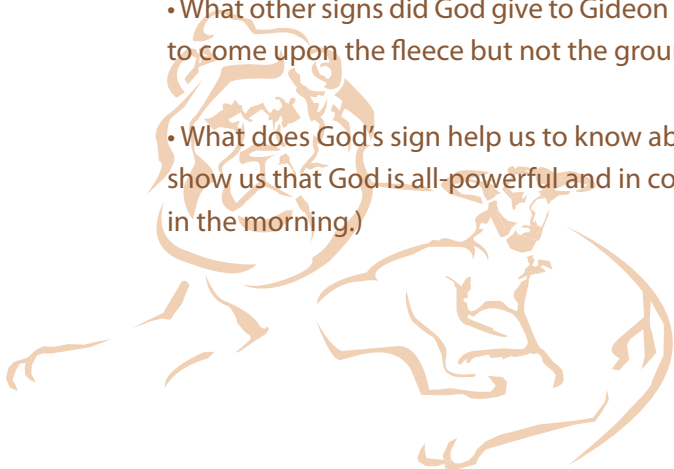
Read "A Secret Mission" from *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories* (page 107). Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: Gideon destroying the altar of Baal. Engage the children by asking:

- Why did God want Gideon to tear down the statue? (God is a jealous God who commands us to have no other gods before Him.)
- What did Gideon think would happen when he wrecked the idol? (He thought the people of the town would be very angry but he trusted the Lord and did as the Lord instructed.)
- What happened as a result of Gideon's courageous act? (The courage of Gideon began to spread through the town.) God, that God was really smart, etc.)

SNACK QUESTIONS

Read "Gideon Makes Sure" from *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories* (page 106). While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:

- Why did Gideon bring a basket of meat and freshly baked bread to the Angel of the Lord? (Gideon wanted to give an offering to the Lord to show his worship.)
- What did the Angel of the Lord do to Gideon's offering? (The Angel of the Lord touched it with the end of his staff. It caught fire and burned up.)
- What other signs did God give to Gideon to help him in his faith? (At Gideon's request, God caused dew to come upon the fleece but not the ground and then on the ground but not on the fleece.)
- What does God's sign help us to know about God? (The signs God gave Gideon show us that God is all-powerful and in control of everything, even the dew that falls in the morning.)



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Where Is Jesus?

Please use the following comments connecting today's lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God's greater plan of redemption.

Gideon's faith to go into battle with so few men did not come quickly. In fact, God was patient with Gideon and built his faith with many miraculous signs. The most important of the signs was the visit by the pre-incarnate Christ (the angel of the Lord in Judges 6:11-24). In Judges 6:16, the Lord answered Gideon's concerns about being the weakest of his family, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together."

Our salvation comes today as it did to Gideon then. We can only be saved if the Lord saves. We, like Gideon, face an impossible enemy, sin and its consequence, death. Only the blood of the Redeemer can bring victory.

Gideon was used by God to save Israel by conquering the Midianites. Gideon's life points forward to Christ.

SWORD BIBLE MEMORY

BE A DOER OF THE WORD

Take time during the class to review the SWORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.

