

Introduction to Gideon Bible Lesson

Video playlist

This week, we will continue studying in the book of Judges. One judge is Gideon. This week, we will look at the first part of his story and continue next week. We find the story of his calling in Judges 6:11-40. The main points will be:

- God sees us different than how we see ourselves.
- God never forsakes His people.
- God calls us to accomplish the tasks He sets for us.
- With God on our side, we do not need to be afraid



and Worship Time Songs

Lesson guide

Ask the child if they remember the name of the judge who helped Barak. Explain that the time has come for a new judge, and God called a man named Gideon. Remind the child of what a judge does.

Talk about Gideon's fear of doing the task that God gave him. Think about some times you and your child have experienced fear. Explain how God will give us the strength we need to accomplish the task he asks us to do. To illustrate, pour out a pile of sand on the floor in your house. Ask the child to clean up the sand with only their fingers. When the child fails or becomes frustrated, pull out the vacuum and together vacuum up the sand. Explain that in their own strength, your child couldn't accomplish the task, just like Gideon wouldn't be able to do what God asked him without God's help. Talk about how God will equip us to do the tasks we need to do just like you provided your child with the vacuum (or broom and dustpan). Memorize Judges 6:12 (ICB) "The angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!'" Remind the child to quote the verse when they are afraid (you can shorten to just the second half of the verse).

Talk about how God sees us different than we see ourselves. Read I Samuel 16:7b. Explain that God see our hearts. Out of your child's sight, switch the bags from two cereal boxes. It would work best if the cereal was a more adult flavor and a children's flavor. You can also use other food products stored in boxes such as cookies/biscuits or crackers. Point out that from the outside, we might think the box is full of granola, but on the inside is e.g. Fruit Loops. Even though we might be surprised to find the wrong kind of cereal in the box, God always knows what is inside of boxes and people's hearts.

Discuss how God never forsakes His people. Explain that forsake means to abandon, but God never leaves us alone. Explain that although we can't see God, He is always there. Go into a room without a window. Hold your child's hand and turn out the light. Explain that even though they can't see you in the dark, they still know that you are there. Remind them that Jesus promised, "I am with you always." (Matthew 28:20) Celebrate that if we have Jesus in our heart, we will never be alone.

Prayer Time:

Pray and ask Jesus to help you always do the tasks He asks and to not be afraid.

Thank God that He forgives people. Ask Him to help you not to be scared but trust Him.

Ask God to help you see who you are in Him.



1
The people forgot about God again.

Every year an enemy came into their land and stole their food and animals.

This made the people very sad. They prayed to God for help.



2
Gideon was a boy in Israel. He was a farmer who grew wheat.

Gideon hid in a hole with the wheat from the field.

He was afraid of the enemy.

He didn't want them to steal the food.



3
God spoke to Gideon.

God called Gideon a mighty warrior.

He didn't feel like a mighty warrior. He was very scared.

He was the smallest person in His family.



4
God promised Gideon that He would be with Him.

God gave Gideon signs to show that He would keep His promises.

Gideon trusted God. He told the people to love and obey God again.

FLOUR PLAY

Pour some flour onto a tray. Explain that we get flour from wheat.

Encourage your child to draw, or write letters and numbers with their fingers into the flour.

You can also create a letter for them to copy.

For extra fun, finish play time by allowing them to play with toy diggers in the flour.

HIDE AND SEEK

Explain how Gideon hid from the enemy in a hole in the ground.

Take turns to play hide and seek with your child. Choose a number to count to depending on your child ability.

MAZE GAME

Help Gideon find his way back to the barn with the wheat.



GIDEON'S SHIELD CRAFT

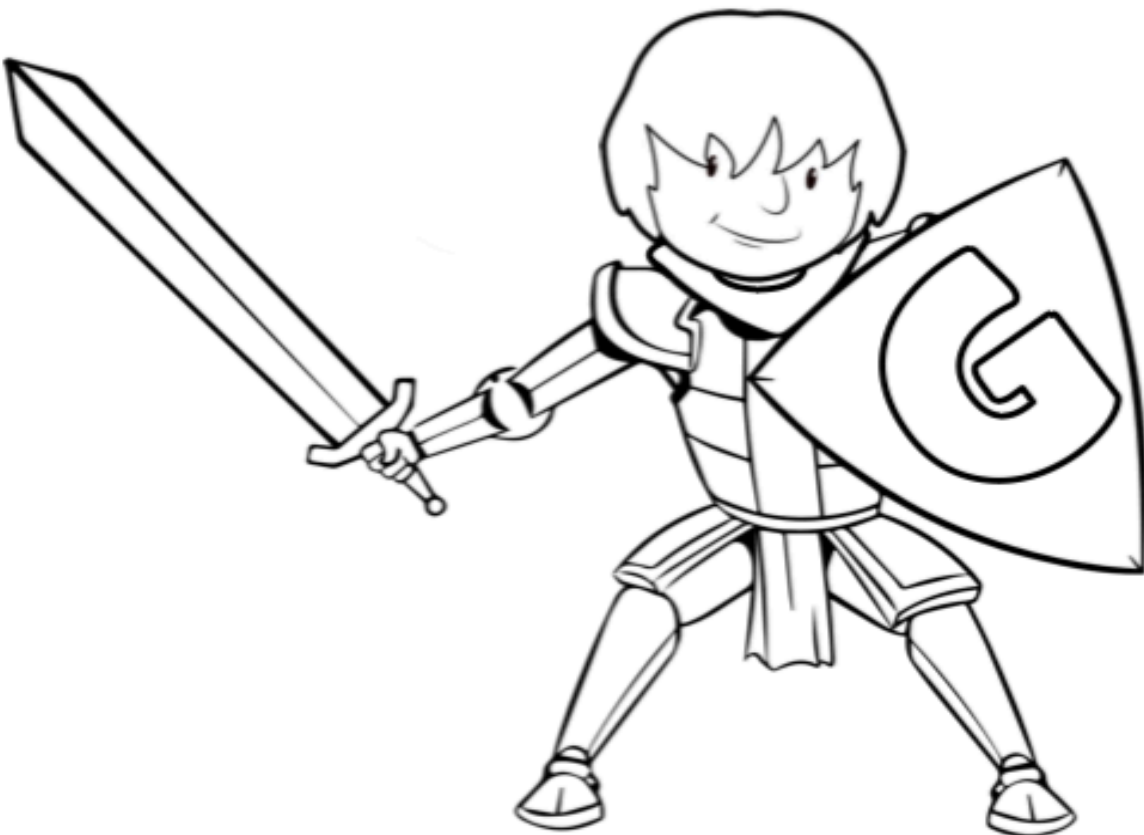


Supplies: Card Stock, crayons or colored pencils, Clear Packing Tape, scissors, Paper Strap (1" x 6-8" long)

Directions: Print Shield on Cardstock, color, cut, wrap 'strap' in tape for more durability, attach strap to shield with tape or staples.



Gideon was afraid of the enemy. He hid in a hole with the wheat.



"The angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said,
'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!'"

Judges 6:12