



The Book of Judges

Gideon: The Weak Mighty Warrior

Lesson 4

Gideon: The Weak Mighty Warrior

Strengths and accomplishments:

- Israel's 5th judge
- A member of the Hall of Faith (see Hebrews 11:32-34)
- Defeated the Midianite army
- Was offered a hereditary kingship by men of Israel

Weaknesses and mistakes:

- Feared his own limitations would prevent God from working
- Collected Midianite gold and made symbol that became an evil object
- Through a concubine, fathered a son who would bring great grief to Gideon's family and the nation of Israel

Question: Strengths and weaknesses, everyone has them. Share a strength in your life and share about a weakness. What are they?

Read Judges 6:1-6

- The Midianites were desert people, descendants of Abraham's second wife, Keturah (see Gen. 25:1-2). From her came the nation of the Midianites.

Question: Turning back to God shouldn't be a last resort. It should be the first thing we do when we face trials and tribulations. Where do you go first?

Read Judges 6:7-10

God sends a prophet to convict Israel of their sins. They are crying out which shows they are regretful for what they lost. They want it restored. The only problem is they are not repenting of their idolatry.

Question: God's aim to sending them his prophet is to move them beyond regret to repentance. What can we learn from this?

Important note! The focus of regret is all horizontal "worldly" and not at all vertical which affects our relationship with God.

Read Judges 6:11-14

We see Gideon hiding the shiny wheat in a wine press and yet the angel of the Lord calls him "mighty warrior". Gideon then asks the angel of the Lord "Why have you abandoned us?" Yet the angel says, "Go in strength, I'm sending you".

Question: How easy it is to overlook our own personal accountability and blame God for our problems? Have you ever done this? Did it bring you back to repentance, or did you continue to blame God?

Read Judges 6:15-32

Man of excuses:

- Weakest man of the tribe of Manasseh
- I need a sign
- I will only work at night

Question: What troubles are you facing? Will you see them as problems which need removing, or possible ways for God to change you and grow you?

Read Judges 6:34-40

The fleece is about how we need to ask God to give us a big picture of who he is.

Question: Are there parts of your life where you need to ask God to point you to his son so that you can trust more fully in his promises?

Next week: Read Judges 7:1-25