

# BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE®

1

## CONVERSATION

### Gideon Obeyed God

**JUDGES 6:11-40; 7:1-22**

For seven years the Midianites ruled over God's people, the Israelites. The Midianites attacked the Israelites and destroyed their crops. The Israelites hid in the mountains.

One day Gideon was threshing (beating out) wheat in his hiding place when an angel of God visited him. "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!" the angel said. "You will save your people from the Midianites."

Gideon answered, "How can I save Israel? My family is poor. I am the youngest in my family."

"I will be with you," God promised. "You will strike down the Midianites as if they were only one man."

Gideon gathered 32,000 men, but God said, "You have too many soldiers. Tell those who are afraid to go home." Many men left, and only 10,000 stayed to fight.

God said, "There are still too many men. Take them down to the water and watch how they drink. Place in one group the men who scoop up water with their hands and lap it with their tongues like dogs. Place those who kneel to drink straight from the water in another group." Gideon obeyed God. Only 300 men drank with their hands to their mouths. God told Gideon, "I will help you defeat the Midianites with these 300 men. Send the rest home."

God helped Gideon know what to do. God told Gideon to give every man a trumpet and an empty pitcher with a torch inside. Gideon directed the men to surround the enemy camp. When Gideon blew his trumpet, the men broke the pitchers, blew their trumpets, and shouted, "For the Lord and for Gideon!"

The Midianites were terrified. God confused them, and they began to fight one another and run away. The battle was won!

**WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE:** Psalm 119:34

**LIFE POINT:** People can choose to obey God.



#### THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, your child heard that people can choose to obey God. God called Gideon to be a warrior and defend his people from the Midianites. Gideon obeyed, and God gave the people a great victory.

#### LIVE IT OUT

Talk with your child about different choices she makes every day. Remind her that God wants her to make the choice to follow Him. Discuss what those choices might be and pray that God will help her make choices that show love and honor to Him.

#### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God asks me to honor Him by choosing to do what is right and reject what is wrong.

#### DAILY BIBLE READING

**Sunday:** Psalm 119:34

**Monday:** Exodus 19:5

**Tuesday:** 2 Corinthians 10:5

**Wednesday:** Deuteronomy 11:1

**Thursday:** Ephesians 6:1

**Friday:** 1 Peter 1:14

**Saturday:** Romans 1:5

**TAKE IT FURTHER:** Check out the *Gideon Obeyed God* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.

## SUMMER 2020

Unit 1, Session 5

### CONNECTION POINT:

Suffering for Christ can deepen our walk with Him.

### THE BIBLE MEETS

**LIFE:** The Christian life is often portrayed in a positive manner, to the exclusion of any trials, difficulties, or sacrifices. Living for Christ can be hard. The Christian turns his or her back on the former way of life and embraces a new way of living in Christ. Unfortunately, non-believers often react with anger and rejection. Our hope in Christ not only carries us through such circumstances, but gives us cause to rejoice and glory in Christ.

**LIVE IT OUT:** Your student has been encouraged to take practical steps to take his or her faith and Live It Out.

## PRESCHOOL

**Scripture:** Judges 6:11-40; 7:1-22

**Live It Out:** Print on a piece of paper: *We will obey God. Joshua 24:24.* Give your child markers and stickers. Tell the Bible story and say the verse as your child decorates the page.

God's people prayed and asked Him to save them from the Midianites. God sent an angel, who appeared to Gideon. He told Gideon God had chosen him to save his people. Gideon said he was not strong, but the angel told Gideon that God would be with him.

God helped Gideon choose three hundred men. He gave each man a trumpet and a torch hidden in a clay pitcher.

Gideon and his men surrounded the camp of the Midianites. It was late at night and very dark. Gideon and his men blew their trumpets and smashed their pitchers. They shouted. The Midianites in the camp were confused and began to fight with one another and run away. Gideon and his men followed them and defeated them.

Gideon obeyed God and saved his people.

## KIDS

**Scripture:** Judges 6:11-7:22

**Live It Out:** Talk about choices your child makes every day. Remind her that God wants her to choose to follow Him. Pray that God will help her make choices that love and honor Him.

God's people had been captured by the enemy. They cried out to God and He heard them. God sent an angel with a message to Gideon. "You will save Israel from their enemy!" said the angel. But Gideon was worried. God said to him "I will be with you." First God told Gideon to tear down his father's altar. Gideon listened to God. God helped Gideon choose 300 men for his army.

The next morning when they came to the enemy's camp, each man held a trumpet in one hand. In the other hand, they held a pitcher with a torch inside it. At Gideon's command, they blew their trumpets and broke their pitchers. The enemy's army began to run, cry out, and turn against one another. Every man in the enemy's army ran away! Gideon obeyed God, and God won a great victory for Israel.

## STUDENTS

**Scripture:** 1 Peter 4:1-2,12-19

- What obstacles tend to keep us from thinking like Christ?
- What hinders us from rejoicing when times are difficult?
- When have you experienced discomfort because of your faith in Christ?

**Live It Out:** Because of the curse of sin, all people are going to suffer. Further, Jesus has told us that, because of following Him, we'll face suffering. In this suffering, it's so easy to complain about our circumstances. Rather than complain, we should still be living with gratitude for all that Christ has given us.

This week, ask your student if he or she has complained during difficult times. If he or she is in a difficult time now, discuss ways you can overcome any struggles and pray for strength today. Make a list of ten things that bring your family joy and post it in a place where you can all see it and be reminded of everything God has given you.