

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

- 1) 07 June 2026 Joshua 01 Strong and Courageous
- 2) 14 June Joshua 02 Amazing Grace
- 3) 21 June Joshua 03-05 Remembering God's Works
- 4) 28 June Joshua 06 Winning Strategy
- 5) 05 July Joshua 07-13 Sin Revealed
- 6) 12 July Joshua 14-22 Unwavering Determination
- 7) 19 July Joshua 23-24 Vital Decision
- 8) 26 July Judges 01-05 Consequences
- 9) **02 Aug Judges 06 Called**
- 10) 09 Aug Judges 07-15 Trust
- 11) 16 Aug Judges 16-21 Compromise
- 12) 23 Aug Ruth 01-02 Faithfulness
- 13) 30 Aug Ruth 03-04 Redemption

INTRODUCTION

- One of the most notable judges, Gideon, was also one of the most questioning – “Where are God’s miracles?” Was Gideon faithless?
- Should we lay out fleeces or trust in dreams to find God’s will?

Passage	Comments
Judges 6:1-10	<p>God uses the Few, the Doubtful to Show His Might</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv1-7. Israel did what was evil again. Notice HOW God woke them when Israel was at their worst. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ v1. God allowed their enemies to conquer when they “did evil in the eyes of the Lord” ♦ v2. Israel had to dig out caves to hide in ♦ vv3-5. Israel’s illegal immigrants came in like locusts and destroyed their food supply ♦ vv6-7. Israel didn’t call out to God till the roof caved in. When do we call out to God? • v8. An unnamed prophet explains the reason why: SIN • v9. Israel was reminded what God had accomplished for them over the years – He brought them out of Egypt • v10. And Israel was reminded what God expected of them – to listen to Him and not to other gods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What does God expect from us TODAY? ♦ How do we stay faithful to God? ♦ Where/When/How do we fail in trusting in God? ♦ Do we have more faith/trust in our bank accounts? ♦ Do we trust the internet more than we trust in God?
6:11-40	<p>God Conveys His Path Forward to Gideon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv11-12. A Theophany (God appears in human form) • v13. Gideon asks questions still being asked today: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ “If God exists why is there evil in the world?” ♦ And “Where are all His miracles?” ♦ What other questions do we ask? _____? • vv14-21. God reveals His plan to Gideon – “Go & Deliver!” But Gideon makes excuses and asks for a sign, so the Angel of the Lord revealed He was God by accepting Gideon’s worship of an offering. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How does God convey His plans to us TODAY? ♦ What excuses do we make to avoid service
6:22-40	<p>God Prefers to Work with Us When We Are Willing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vv22-24. When Gideon realized God’s awesomeness He cried out and built and altar of remembrance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ How do we easily recall God’s goodness to us? • v25. God again speaks to Gideon, and commands him to tear down his father’s altar of Baal & Asherah pole, which was a tree stump carved into a phallic symbol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ What idols should we tear down? _____? • vv34-39. Gideon did not move against the Midianites until the Spirit of God came upon him, and he requests for tangible evidence from God by using a fleece <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Was this right or wrong for Gideon to do?

Passage	Comments
A Few Words on Laying Down Fleeces Today.	<p>Should we Expect to see a Miracle or Providence?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If God were to appear to us in person, or give us a phone call or send us an email, then asking for tangible proof, as Gideon did, would be a reasonable request • Since God conveys His will to us in more subtle ways today (Heb 1:1-2) through His Son (or His Word), then “laying down a fleece” involves a providential answer and not something that breaks the laws of physics • Remember – unbelievers seek signs/wonders... Jn 4:48 • If we lack something, such as wisdom, then ask for it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ This includes asking for confirmation of God’s leading. ♦ But know this - the answer will be a providential answer • For example: “Lord, please confirm you are leading me into full time missions work?” The answer won’t involve the Sun standing still, but it might involve a providential answer to receiving financial support, or a long-closed door of opportunity finally opens up.
Was Gideon a Coward? Not per Hebrews 11:32	<p>Gideon was Human – But Usable</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6:11. Gideon is hiding & threshing wheat in a wine vat • 6:15. Gideon makes excuses of his smallness • 6:27. Gideon destroys his father’s altar at night for fear • 6:36-40. Gideon asked for tangible evidence from God • 7:10. Gideon checks out the enemy’s camp with Purah • Heb 11:32. The author stated he did not have the time to recount all the stories which could be told on behalf of Gideon and others.

CONCLUSION/APPLICATIONS

- Gideon was just like many of us – doubtful about directly seeing and hearing from God, but he was willing to do what needed to be done once he received confirmation
- Gideon truly proved all things **1Thes 5:21**

NEXT WEEK: Judges 07-15. God takes ordinary people and makes them heroes. Would we be willing to pick up arms, ask tough questions, or proclaim God’s greatness at personal risk?

