



THE GOSPEL PROJECT SR. UNIT 9.3 Gideon

Date: Sunday February 1, 2026 **Teachers:** Vicky W (lead), Nate B (co-lead)

Bible Passage: Judges 6-8 **Key Passage:**

Props: from home: ** sponge/paper towel, bowl/bucket (Vicky) **at centre:** (ball from the bag),

Review Rules:

One Mouth speaking at a time (Teacher points to mouths/kids point to their mouths)

Two Hands kept to myself (kids wiggle hands and keep them to themselves)

Two Feet kept to myself (kids cross legs)

Speak Kind Words like our God 3 in One

ACROSTIC OF JESUS: "FAITHFUL"

Susan

INTRO TO BIBLE STORY:

Vicky

Review the pattern of the people of Israel:

Away from God: God's people sinned against God.

Bondage: God's people were captured by a nation.

Cried to God: God's people cried to God for help.

Deliverer: God sent a deliverer—a judge.

We are in the book of Judges, watching the people of Israel go through this pattern OVER AND OVER AND OVER AGAIN! Today's Story the people turned from God again and worshipped other gods and so God allowed the Midonites to Rule over them. Before we watch our video we are going to play a little game...

Instruct kids to stand. Call out traits one at a time. If a kid fits the description, he should follow your command. For each trait, you may choose to allow kids to remain standing or to be seated. For example:

Sit down if your name begins with a vowel.

Remain standing if your birthday is in January, February, March, April, or May.

Sit down if you are left-handed. Continue calling out traits. When only one or two kids remain, invite all the kids to stand. In today's Bible story, an army started out with thousands of men. With that many soldiers, they probably could have easily won any battle! But God gave them a test to reduce the number to just 300. Do you think they won with that few men?

THE BIBLE STORY VIDEO: Gideon

DISCUSSION VIDEO:

Nate

Gideon was the youngest son in his family, and his family was the weakest in the tribe. Do you think God could have found a better warrior to lead the army? Why do you think God chose Gideon then? [Invite responses.]

Gideon went to battle with just 300 soldiers. How did this give more glory to God than if he had gone with 10,000 men? [Invite responses.] Discuss personal weaknesses and how our culture values strength, but God says His Strength is made perfect in our weakness.

DISMISS JR. GR.1

KEY PASSAGE VERSE:

Vicky

“ For the LORD is our judge; the LORD is our lawgiver; the LORD is our king; he will save us. Isaiah 33:22 (Review together then play game below)

Instruct kids to sit in a circle. Each kid should put her right hand over the left hand of the player to her right and her left hand under the right hand of the player to her left. Demonstrate how a player can swing over her right hand to pat the left hand of the next player. As the first kid pats the hand of the next player, she should say the first word of the key passage. Continue around the circle with each player saying one word at a time. Encourage kids to “pass” the key passage around the circle faster or slower.

BIBLE REVIEW: materials: (whiteboard, construction paper (½) for each child to roll into a horn)

Nate

Ask the following review questions. Kids have to form a trumpet out of rolled up paper and blow their horn if they know the answer (invite kids to come up and answer on the white board for the answer)

Who attacked the Israelites? (Midian, Judg. 6:1)

What kind of tree did the angel sit under? (an oak tree, Judg. 6:11)

What did the angel call Gideon? (mighty warrior, Judg. 6:12)

When did Gideon tear down the altar to the false god? (at night, Judg. 6:27)

What did Gideon set out as a sign for the Lord? (a fleece, Judg. 6:36-40)

How many people were left in Gideon’s army after God told him to send back the people who were afraid?
(10,000, Judg. 7:3)

How many people were left after they drank water? (300, Judg. 7:7)

How did God use Gideon? (God used Gideon’s weakness for His glory.)

ACTIVITY: “Run and Kneel/ Run and Lap Relay”

Vicky

materials: (**bring in a bucket/bowl of water and a sponge or paper towel, demonstrate the dry fleece, then the wet fleece)

What did Gideon want from God that involved squeezing water into the bowl, then what did he ask for in reverse? God was patient with Gideon when he asked for a sign, Gideon was afraid, he didn’t trust that God would be with him, he needed proof. God was with him and the army and helped him deliver them from the hands of the Midianites. Then, water was involved in God choosing the army, and our next game is relay, with how God choose the people. (Divide into two teams and call run/kneel, run/lap kids (kids scoop/ OR kids put heads to ground)

ACTIVITY: “Knock them down” materials:

Nate

(ball from bag, paper cups -in black bin or more upstairs in storage)

Set up cups into a simple pyramid shape. Invite kids to toss a beanbag or small ball to knock down the pyramid. As kids knock down the pyramid, talk about how God called Gideon to knock down his father’s idols. The Israelites turned from God and worshiped idols once again. Gideon’s father worshiped idols. When God called Gideon to deliver the Israelites from the Midianites, the first thing God told him to do was knock down the idols in Gideon’s house. After that, the people of Gideon’s village wanted to kill him, but guess what? Gideon’s dad said, “If Baal is a god, let Baal fight for himself” (Judg. 6:31-32). Maybe Gideon’s dad didn’t yet believe in the one true God, but Gideon’s dad wasn’t so sure about trusting in an idol either. God used Gideon’s weakness for His glory. I wish this story ended with Gideo and all of Israel turning back to God for good, but at the end of Gideon’s life he turned away from God again and worshiped idols.

We can all shake our heads (SMH) And Face Palm together!

ACTIVITY “Bible story guessing game” materials: (index cards, pen)

Vicky

Write the following words on separate index cards: Gideon, Midianites, Angel of the Lord, fleece, river, 300, Jesus. Invite kids to play a guessing game. Kids will take turns drawing a card. They have 30 seconds to describe what is on the card without saying the actual word. Group members may call out guesses. The first player to guess the word gets to draw the next card. The Israelites cried out to God because they knew they could not save themselves. Even Gideon was not enough to save them; God used Gideon to save His people, but God fought the battle for them. The people needed someone who was mighty to save. We have a saviour who is mighty save, like Gideon we are weak because of sin and evil that we’ve done and has been done to us and we cannot save ourselves. Jesus is mighty to save.

PRAY TOGETHER WITH GROUP

ACTIVITY SHEET/SNACK