

## Judges 6-8 - Gideon

The Events	His Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- did evil in God's sight - handed over to Midian - 7 yrs</li> <li>- Their crops were destroyed and livestock taken</li> <li>- Prophet comes to remind them of what God has done and they haven't obeyed Him (6:7-10)</li> <li>- Gideon in winepress with his wheat - hiding - God appears to him - God sees potential - Gideon sees weakness and he doesn't understand God at all (11-18)</li> <li>- God does provide a sign (6:19-24) - God meets Gideon where he is - gives him peace and assurance</li> <li>- Tear down father's Baal and Asherah (25-27)</li> <li>- Men of the city seek to kill Gideon (28-30)</li> <li>- Gideon = Jerubbaal - let Baal contend for himself (31-32)</li> <li>- Enemies are coming against Israel (33)</li> <li>- Spirit of the Lord comes on Gideon (34)</li> <li>- Gideon's fleece (37-40)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- shows his ignorance, <b>fear</b>, and lack of faith - You abandoned us (6:13)</li> <li>- Gideon look at himself (not God) - shows <b>fear</b> (15)</li> <li>- Gideon wants a sign - <b>fear</b>, lack of faith (17-18)</li>   <li>- Gideon did it by night - <b>fear</b></li>   <li>- He gathers an army together to fight the enemy (33-34)</li> <li>- Gideon asks for assurance - wants a miracle - <b>Fear</b> (36)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gideon had an army - 32,000 men (7:1-3)</li> <li>- God reduces the army to 300 (7:4-8)</li> <li>- God gives Gideon another sign to show him that God is truly with him (12-15)</li> <li>- They surrounded the camp - about 10:00 PM they sounded the trumpets and smashed their pitchers and the Midianites were engulfed by noise and surround by light (19-25)</li> <li>- The kings were killed by Ephraim (24-25)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gideon went to the camp because he was <b>afraid</b> - and he overheard a conversation (7:10-15)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ephraim complains - but Gideon calms the waters by calm encouraging words (8:1-3)</li> </ul>	

## Judges 6-8 - Gideon

His Fleece	His Finish
<p>Fleece:</p> <p><b>Purpose</b> - to know the will of God</p> <p><b>Problem</b> - God already told him what to do (6:36)</p> <p><b>Procedure</b> - I will do - then You will do - Then I'll know (37) - putting God in a box - telling Him what to do - then I will know what you already told me - I am leading the parade</p> <p><b>Warning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- don't seek signs (Mt 12:39)</li> <li>- Don't put God to the test (Mt 4:7)</li> </ul> <p><b>Will of God:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eph 5:17 - understand = perceive (set or join together in the mind) what the will of God is - John 15:1-11</li> <li>- Jn 4:34; 5:30; 6:38-40; 7:17 - we know we are doing His will if we are keeping His commandments, focused on the purpose of why Jesus came and why we were left with the Holy Spirit - preach the Gospel</li> <li>- Ro 12:1-2 - process of complete dedication to God - daily living sacrifice - daily dying to self - don't be conformed, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind through God's Word</li> <li>- Col 1:9-12 - this is the reflection of God and walking in His will in your life</li> <li>- Col 3:15-17 - His peace will rule (umpire) in our hearts (Phil 4:4-9)</li> <li>- Pr 3:5-6 - trust in Him - He will direct your paths</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Israel wanted to make Gideon their king (8:22)</li> <li>- The people credited the victory to Gideon and not God</li> <li>- They wanted Gideon to become their king - not God</li> </ul> <p>Gideon's response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I won't rule over you (22)</li> <li>- God will rule over you (23)</li> <li>- Sounds good in words but what about the heart?</li> </ul> <p>Downfall</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- took the kings ornaments for himself (21)</li> <li>- He wanted gold given to him (24-26)</li> <li>- Makes himself an ephod - he placed it in his city - the people played the harlot with it (27)</li> <li>- Left alone for 40 years (28-29)</li> <li>- Many wives, concubines (30-31)</li> <li>- Abimelech = "My father the king" - #H40</li> </ul> <p>Gideon dies (32)</p> <p>The sons of Israel play the harlot (they had been doing that for the last 40 years) (33)</p> <p>Forgot God and Gideon (34-35)</p>