

Sunday morning
teaching plan

Date: 15th June

TITLE:	The call of Gideon : Judges 6
THEME:	Even when we don't think we can do anything, God believes in us!
AIM:	It's okay to have doubts and questions. God can still use you.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

During Gideon's life the Midianites and Amalekites oppressed Israel. For 7 years they ravaged the land, destroying everything like locusts! This was hard on Israel. They would spend all year growing crops and farming only for it all to be taken or destroyed. We find Gideon hiding in a winepress, trying to protect the crops his family had grown. Gideon is a reluctant judge. He doubts God's call on his life. He asks for proof, over and over again. He questions and worries. When he first acts for God, it is in secret at night because he is scared. In many ways Gideon is like us; full of doubt, questions and fear. We slowly learn to rely on God and trust that He will come through for us!

WARM UP

Play "guess who this is?" Use PPT picture to guess the celebrity. Point being about potential to become someone who can achieve something. We might not see it when we are young.

MAIN TEACHING

Watch cheesy video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U68clMZSgvQ> We are not studying all the story just Gideon's call.

Activity 1. God sees our potential Read Judges 6:11-16

1. Has there been a time when someone gave you a job to do and you thought you couldn't do it, but they believed that you could? (Leader be prepared to share a personal story)
2. Why do you think Gideon was surprised when God called him a mighty warrior?
3. Look up Ephesians 2:20. and 2 Corinthians 12:9 What does it teach us about how we should view ourselves and what God can do for us?

Key teaching: God is able to see our potential. Gideon couldn't see his and sometimes we don't see ours too. We often focus on our weaknesses and limitations but God does not see us as we are. He sees us as the people we can become when His strength is at work in us. God has much work for us to do and believes that we can achieve it, if we place our faith in Him and not rely on ourselves.

Activity 2 Rely on God's strength

Play a few rounds of arm wrestling OR <https://www.quickflashgames.com/games/bar-challenge-1-arm-wrestling/>

READ: Judges 6: 14

1. What does “go in the strength you have” mean? Whose strength did he have?
2. Look up Philippians 4:13. Whose strength do Christians have? What does it mean for everyday living?

Key teaching: “Go in the strength you have” is a challenge not to rely on our own strength but to go out in God’s strength. He provides us with this through the Holy Spirit. This does not mean we have super strength like Superman but He will give us the resources we need to accomplish what He wants us to do.

Philippians 4:13 does not mean we can do anything we want but it does mean we can do all that God asks us to do because He gives us power to do it!

Activity 3. Stand up against false gods and ideologies.**Read Judges 6:25-31.**

Do a little true/false quiz on PPT . How much truth do you know?

1. What are the idols (untrue things) in this modern world that we must stand against?
2. Even though Gideon tore down the idols at night so no one would see, why was it still brave?
3. Read 1 John 5:21. What is the instruction?

Key teaching: The altar belonged to Gideon’s father. He was challenging not only popular culture but his own family’s beliefs. This was brave. He showed his commitment to God in standing up for truth. There are many things in our world that are idols: popularity, money, possessions, fame. All of these and more are idols that tell lies about happiness, contentment and truth. When we have faith in Jesus we must challenge these lies and tell people the truth. It can be difficult.

Activity 4. Seek God’s confirmation**Read Judges 6:36-40**

1. Why did Gideon ask for signs to confirm God was speaking to him? Is it okay to doubt?
2. How do we know today that God has called us to do something?
3. Look up James 1:5 What must we do if we are unsure?

Key teaching: Gideon needed to be sure he was following God’s will. It is okay to doubt and seek reassurance. We should not expect God to act in the same way He did with Gideon, because today we have the Bible to turn to in order to discover God’s will. The more we study and understand God’s word we will learn what His will is for us.

TAKEAWAY

Give away a torch... Read Psalm 119:105. **“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path”**

EXTRA INFORMATION