

GIDEON

2005

MIGHTY MAN OF

VALOUR

1. Before entering these studies on Gideon in Judges, we need to look at the history of Israel as seen in Joshua. Joshua is a book of victories, a book showing real power as the twelve tribes acting as one man defeated their enemies. What was their secret? How were they able to march around Jericho as they did and then witness the falling of the walls of the city? I think there is a secret place to which they retreated that made the difference. What is the name of the place and let's apply it to our lives today?
2. This place of significance from Joshua fades into the background in Judges and another place comes before us in Chapter 2 – vs 1. What is this place and what is the significance of it? What is characteristic of this place?
3. The last verse of the book of Judges describes the moral condition that prevailed during the time of the Judges. Discuss.
4. I Timothy in the New Testament would answer to the book of Joshua. What book in the New Testament would answer to Judges? This book has a word used over and over and this word implies that it is not great companies of people who we will find that are faithful but the _____. What is the word that we should fill in here? Discuss
5. Before going into Chapter 6, let's talk about choices and consequences. Can you name individuals that made good choices in both the Old and New Testaments. How about the other side?
6. Chapter 6 - vs 1 to 7. Let's look at the choices first – what were some of them? Discuss. Do you think that the opening verse shows us a choice or a consequence? How about the consequences? How many different ones can we see in these first 7 verses?

7. Chapter 6 – vs 8 to 10. Do you think that Israel was expecting a prophet? When do we see prophets coming up the scene? Witness Elijah! Discuss these verses and see what God's case against His people involved. Discuss the last words of verse 10.
8. Chapter 6 – vs 11 thru 16. The first thing we learn in verse 11 is that someone was *watching* Gideon. Secondly, Gideon had not _____ !! God was not just *watching* – look at the tense of verse 11. Discuss the words of the Lord as he calls Gideon a “Mighty man of valour.”
9. Verse 13 - Discuss Gideon's response – the “if's” and the conclusions that are drawn from these observations. What is Gideon looking at? What was his might? Discuss the reasoning of verse 15 and then listen to verse 16.
10. Verses 17 to 23. What is the grace of God? What is the government of God? Discuss his asking for a sign and the appearance of the *angel*. Who is this being who appears as an angel?
10. Verses 11 to 35. Discuss the first thing that Gideon does. Which should come first - worship or service? Where is Gideon instructed to begin his service? Discuss the significance. Who is the first man that appears to be delivered from the worship of Baal? Discuss
11. Verses 36 to 40. Lets discuss the fleece. What is it that Gideon needs assurance of? Discuss the two tests that Gideon places before the Lord and the Lord's response to him. How might this be applicable to us as Christians today.
12. Chapter 7 – vs 1 thru 6. Discuss the various tests that the Lord puts the Israelites through. Discuss how you might think Gideon would have felt as he saw 22,000 of his soldiers go back to their tents. How about the next test as he goes from 10,000 to 300 men. Discuss.
13. Verses 9 thru 15. Why do you feel God would have allowed Gideon to go down into the camp and hear the man as he expounds the dream to his companion. Discuss Gideon's first response after hearing the dream and the interpretation of it.
13. Vs 16 to 25. Discuss the trumpets – the pitchers – and the torches. Discuss the *order* of the victory cry in verse 18. Whose battle was it? Discuss the various parts of this battle.

- 14. Chapter 8 – vs 22 to 27. What appears to have lead to the downfall of Gideon. He appears to have had a great victory in verses 22 and 23. Discuss. What is the significance of this as it relates to the failure in verse 24. Discuss his request of them and the wording.**

Remember:

CHOICES

CONSEQUENCES