

Agape House of Worship
Midweek Service: Bible Study

Topic: Lessons from the life of Gideon
Part 1: The Call (From Fear to Faith)
Text: Judges 6:1-40

Date: April 7, 2021
Teacher: Pastor Bimbola Lawore

Introduction: About the book of Judges

After the death of Joshua, the successor of Moses, the children of Israel were left without a leader for many years, the people departed from serving the God who saved and delivered them from bondage, they turned to Idolatry in the promised land. The children of Israel were at many points in danger of losing the land that God of given to them, they were surrounded by nations who hated them. God raised leaders who were called judges at various time to protect his people from their enemies. The book of Judges spans a period of over 325 years in the life of the people of Israel.

1. God is merciful, he will always rescue – Judges 2:16-18
2. God hates sin, he will punish every act of disobedience – Judges 2:20-23
3. God has a plan to save his own – Judges 2:5
4. God will use anyone to defeat the enemies of God’s people
 - A left-handed man – Ehud (Judges 3:15)
 - A man with a jawbone – (Judges 3:31)
 - A woman – Deborah (Judges 4:4)
 - A stay-at-home mom – Jael (Judges 4:18-22)
 - A fearful farmer – Gideon (Judges 6-8)

Gideon’s Call: Judges 6:11-18

Gideon was a farmer who God called to deliver the people of Israel from Midian. He was a warrior and judge of Israel.

Judges 6:11-12 *“Then the angel of the Lord came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. 12 The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, “Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!”” (NLT)*

1. God’s visitation through an Angel. Judges 6:11
2. God gave Gideon an Identity. Judges 6:12
3. Gideon’s initial response. Judges 6:13, Judges 6:15, Judges 6:17-18
4. God gave Gideon an assignment. Judges 6:14
5. God gave Gideon a promise. Judges 6:16

When God Calls

- God calls in spite of your limitations and failures
- God’s call sometimes come when you are completely immersed in the challenges of life.
- God calls when you choose to be resourceful and find opportunities in the midst of your limitations. Gideon used a wine press as a threshing floor for his wheat.

Ponder on this: What are you saying about yourself? Do you know what is God saying to you?

Gideon's Challenges: Judges 6:25-30

Judges 6:27-30 *"So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the Lord had commanded. But he did it at night because he was afraid of the other members of his father's household and the people of the town. 28 Early the next morning, as the people of the town began to stir, someone discovered that the altar of Baal had been broken down and that the Asherah pole beside it had been cut down. In their place a new altar had been built, and on it were the remains of the bull that had been sacrificed. 29 The people said to each other, "Who did this?" And after asking around and making a careful search, they learned that it was Gideon, the son of Joash." 30 "Bring out your son," the men of the town demanded of Joash. "He must die for destroying the altar of Baal and for cutting down the Asherah pole." (NLT)*

After God told Gideon what to do, he had to deal with opposition, although He was still fearful, He did what God told him to do, and God's power showed up by destroying the altar of Baal. Responding to God's assignment will come with opposition, you must choose to stand in Faith knowing the Lord of Angel Armies the one who called you and choose you for the assignment will back you up.

Gideon's Doubts: Judges 6:36-40

Gideon was so unsure of himself and the ability to carry out the assignment God has called him to do, he asked for a sign again.

"Then Gideon said to God, "If you are truly going to use me to rescue Israel as you promised, 37 prove it to me in this way. I will put a wool fleece on the threshing floor tonight. If the fleece is wet with dew in the morning but the ground is dry, then I will know that you are going to help me rescue Israel as you promised." 38 And that is just what happened. When Gideon got up early the next morning, he squeezed the fleece and wrung out a whole bowlful of water. 39 Then Gideon said to God, "Please don't be angry with me, but let me make one more request. Let me use the fleece for one more test. This time let the fleece remain dry while the ground around it is wet with dew." 40 So that night God did as Gideon asked. The fleece was dry in the morning, but the ground was covered with dew."

Question: Is it ok to ask for signs? How does God reveal His will to you?

Conclusion:

The word of God is the only proof we need to seek for. Our faith in what Jesus Christ did for us is the proof we need to do what God calls us to do. He is the living word. He's Spirit of God that lives in us and He is the witness confirming God's mind. We need to shift from the mindset of fear and shift to a mindset of Faith. Align with the mind of God. **1 Corinthians 2:16, Hebrews 11:1, John 10:3-5, Habakkuk 2:1, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 82:6.**

- Position yourself to hear God
- Believe what God says
- Do what God says

Life Application: How do you keep yourself aligned with God's Truth?