

Agape House of Worship
Midweek Service: Bible Study

Topic: Lessons from the life of Gideon
Part 3: The Triumph (From Fear to Faith)
Text: Judges 8:1-28

Date: April 21, 2021
Teacher: Pastor Bimbola Lawore

Key Verse : Judges 8:11 *“Gideon circled around by the caravan route east of Nobah and Jogbehah, taking the Midianite army by surprise.” NLT*

1 John 5:4-5 *“For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith. ⁵ And who can win this battle against the world? Only those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.”(NLT)*

1 John 5:4-5 *“For everyone born of God is victorious and overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has conquered and overcome the world—our [continuing, persistent] faith [in Jesus the Son of God]. ⁵ Who is the one who is victorious and overcomes the world? It is the one who believes and recognizes the fact that Jesus is the Son of God.” (AMP)*

Gideon was called by God to deliver the people of Israel from one of their key enemies that has been tormenting them for seven years. When the angel of God appeared to Gideon in Judges 6:11, Gideon did not see himself as qualified for the assignment, even though God called him a “mighty man of valor” he saw himself as least from his entire family and also from the weakest clan in the Tribe of Manasseh. God was patient with Gideon, God took Gideon from a fearful timid man into a might man of valor who through his faith in God’s word was able to lead the people of Israel into war as their Judge.

The Israelites army of 300 men with God’s help were able to destroy 120,000 warriors of the Midianites. Today we will look at a few things Gideon did well that enabled him to complete the assignment God gave him successfully.

1. Gideon’s Weapon – Judges 7:16

A ram’s horn and clay Jar with a torch in it. **1 Corinthians 1:26-29**

Judges 7:16 *“He divided the 300 men into three groups and gave each man a ram’s horn and a clay jar with a torch in it.”*

Questions?

What are the weapon of warfare that God has given us? **2 Corinthians 10:4**

What are the various natural weapons we default to using when we are in difficult situations?

2. Gideon and His Critics - Judges 8:1-3

The people of Ephraim defeated the two commanders of the Midian Army, Oreb and Zeeb.

Be prepared to respond to assumptions, accusations, concerns, etc. Accusations can be a distraction or an attack from the enemy to get you off track or a test of your own character.

Be a person of Integrity, Gideon gave honor to whom honor is due.

3. Gideon and His Army - Judges 8:4-5

Unlike before when the Israelites gave up easily in defeating all of their enemies and leaving some to still stay around. Gideon did not end the battle at the Midianites camp, he pursued those who escaped into the desert area.

Responding to God's call and fulfilling our God given assignment requires tenacity, it requires not given up when it becomes challenging, we must be steadfast and determined to go all the way for God's name to be glorified.

4. Gideon and His Enemy - Judges 8:6-9, Judges 8:10-21

In pursuing your God given assignment, you must avoid distractions, you must avoid people that seek to distract you and discourage you from doing what God has called you to do. You must keep your eyes on the goal.

Gideon was determined to destroy the enemy and capture their key leaders, He demonstrated that He is a mighty man of valor. He took the enemy by surprise. Judges 8:11.

The men of Succoth and Peniel were selfish and insensitive people.

Question: What do you think of Gideon's revenge towards the people of Succoth and Peniel?

5. Gideon and People's Praise – Judges 8:22-24

“Then the Israelites said to Gideon, “Be our ruler! You and your son and your grandson will be our rulers, for you have rescued us from Midian.” 23 But Gideon replied, “I will not rule over you, nor will my son. The Lord will rule over you! 24 However, I do have one request—that each of you give me an earring from the plunder you collected from your fallen enemies.” (The enemies, being Ishmaelites, all wore gold earrings.)”

Gideon was not hungry for power; he rather directed the people to give their honor to God. We must make it our primary goal that everything about our God given assignments directs people to God and bring them closer to Him.

Question: What was the intent of Gideon requesting the gold earrings from the people?

Conclusion:

Just as God chose Gideon and ordinary man from a weakest clan in the Tribe of Manasseh to do extraordinary things. Through his obedience and faith in God, he completely destroyed 120,000 armies of the Midianites along their commanders and kings. God wants to use you to accomplish great things for His glory. Do not discount yourself. Embrace what God has called you to do and fight for. Believe His word, walk in Faith and Take Action!

1 Corinthians 1:27 “Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful.”

Ephesians 2:10 “For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them”