

Gideon: 12 Lessons Judges 6 – 8

Gideon Introduction

What do we remember about Gideon?

- He was the one who started the practice of putting Bibles in hotel rooms.
- He was the one who defeated a great big army with a band of 300 men.

- Gideon is one of the heroes of the faith listed in Hebrews 11.
- We can pull at least 12 lessons out of his life.
- Some of them are positive – that is, Gideon is a positive example.
- Gideon also gives us a couple of lessons in “what not to do.”

Gideon Judges 6:1-10

Lesson 1 Even when the mess you’re in is entirely your own fault, it still pays to cry out to God.

Gideon Judges 6:11-18

Lesson 2 When God wants to get something done in this world, he normally calls people to do it.

Lesson 3 He will be with us as we go, therefore the results depend on his strength, not ours.

Gideon Judges 6:19-32

Lesson 4 Take time out to worship the Lord.

Lesson 5 True worship usually involves sacrifice.

Lesson 6 Destroy all your idols – and all their altars.

- Some British pastors were talking about inviting evangelist D.L. Moody to their city for an outreach.
- One man asked, “Why must it be Moody? Does D.L. Moody have a monopoly on the Holy Spirit?”
- One of the others replied, “No, but it’s evident that the Holy Spirit has a monopoly on D.L. Moody.”
- God wants a monopoly on us.

Gideon Judges 6:33-40

Lesson 7 Really, you probably don't need "fleeces" to determine God's will.

- God's will was already clear.
- Gideon may have done this to strengthen his faith.
- He may also have used it as evidence to convince others.

Gideon Judges 7:1-8

Lesson 8 God can always win – and he doesn't need a big army.

I have heard Him say, "Where two or three are gathered together in My name there am I."

I have heard Him say, "One shall chase a thousand, and two shall put ten thousand to flight,"

But I never heard Him say, "You must get more men, or I cannot do this work; you must increase the human forces, or the Divine energy will not be equal to the occasion."

– Joseph Parker (1830-1902)

Gideon Judges 7:9-25

Lesson 9 Even when God is with you and assures you of victory, you still have to fight the battle.

- See Ephesians 6:10-12

"If God loves you he will use you either for suffering or service; and if he has given you peace you must now prepare for war. Will you think me odd if I say that our Lord came to give us peace that he might send us out to war?"

– Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892)

Gideon Judges 8:22-28

Lesson 10 Right after you experience a great victory, look out!

- Ephod = A garment that partially covers – like an apron or a poncho.
- The high priest wore one that had a breastpiece holding the Urim and Thummim.
- Gideon may have wrongly taken on priestly functions.

Gideon Judges 8:29-32

Lesson 10(a) Especially for guys: No matter how much of a big shot you ever get to be, you don't get all the girls.

"Power is the ultimate aphrodisiac." – Henry Kissinger (1923 –)

Lesson 11 Whatever you do, finish well. Please. Finish well.

Gideon Judges 8:33-35

Lesson 12 Leave a legacy of positive influence that outlasts you.

Gideon: 12 Lessons

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4. Take time out to worship the Lord.
5. True worship usually involves sacrifice.
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Gideon: 12 Lessons

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