

LESSON 3

GOD'S MIGHTY WORK THROUGH GIDEON

Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet: Gideon: A Mighty Man of Valor
- Life Application Worksheet #1, Pages 1 and 2: Destruction of the Altar
- Life Application Worksheet #2: Vessels of God
- Homework

GIDEON: A MIGHTY MAN OF VALOR

A. The Lord Calls Gideon

During the time of Gideon, Israel was currently being oppressed by the _____. These people would _____ their land and _____ their crops, making it difficult for the Israelites to find food.

In response, an Angel of the Lord came to call for Gideon. The Angel of the Lord called Gideon a _____. However, Gideon was actually someone who was also very afraid. At the time, he was threshing _____ in a winepress, hiding from the raiders.

Instead of immediately accepting his calling, Gideon questioned why he had not seen any of God's _____ in his lifetime. Today, we should strive to know our Lord Jesus _____. We must _____ in Him and _____ Him so that we can accomplish what He has asked us to do.

Gideon also saw himself as a _____ person, and did not understand how God could save the Israelites through him. By calling to him and asking him to serve boldly, God was challenging Gideon to view himself as God viewed him.

B. Gideon Timidly Works for the Lord

Gideon might have been timid, but he was willing to obey and trust in God.

God instructed him to tear down his father's _____ of Baal and the wooden _____ beside it, and set up an altar to _____ and make a _____ using the wood from the image.

So, Gideon did as instructed. However, Gideon was still timid in his calling, so he tore down the altar at _____, when no one could see him do it.

Gideon may not have been a mighty man up to that time, but later, he fought enemies in the broad daylight. God will always encourage us to become the type of person He has destined us to be. God called Gideon a "mighty man of valor" because that is what Gideon would become.

C. Gideon Bravely Conquers His Foes

Now, Gideon was ready to fight the Midianites and the _____.

Everyone gathered together and was ready to fight, but Gideon asked God for two _____. He was still unsure about his leading role. God answered with the signs, and Gideon was ready to fight.

Still, there was one more thing Gideon had to do before going into battle. Gideon had gathered _____ men, but God did not want that many to go into battle, unless the _____ boasted that they had won the battle on their own.

In the end, only _____ men went into battle, and without even lifting their _____, they were able to win the battle. God's glorious work was definitely demonstrated in this victory, and through _____, God delivered the Israelites from the hands of the Midianites. From that day, they enjoyed _____ for forty years.

God will never use a secret saint to win His battles. We need to be bold and brave, and take our stand, regardless of cost or consequences.

DESTRUCTION OF THE ALTAR

Before He even began to gather an army to face the Midianites, God gave Gideon a very important task. Let's read Judges 6:25-27. How very strange! Gideon's very first task was not to battle the Midianites, but to destroy Baal's altar.

In the Bible, there are many verses that teach us about the harm of worshipping idols. Read the following verses and write down what each verse teaches us about why worshipping idols is wrong.

1. Ezekiel 14:3

"Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their hearts, and put before them that which causes them to stumble into iniquity. Should I let Myself be inquired of at all by them?"

2. Deuteronomy 32:21

"They have provoked Me to jealousy by what is not God; They have moved Me to anger by their foolish idols. But I will provoke them to jealousy by those who are not a nation; I will move them to anger by a foolish nation."

3. 1 Chronicles 16:25-27

"For the LORD is great and greatly to be praised; He is also to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before Him; Strength and gladness are in His place."

4. Hosea 4:12

"My people ask counsel from their wooden idols, and their staff informs them. For the spirit of harlotry has caused them to stray, and they have played the harlot against their God."

5. Psalm 106:36

"They served their idols, which became a snare to them."

Read each scenario, and then turn to the verse that follows and write it down in the space provided.

Scenario 1

On his 12th birthday, Rudy was given a smartphone. He was so excited to actually own one since all his friends at school already had one. He couldn't wait to start playing games and surfing the Internet! On the first day, Rudy spent two hours playing with all the options on his new phone and downloading all the latest applications. In the coming weeks, he started to spend more and more time on his phone, playing games and chatting with his friends.

Toward the end of the school semester, Rudy's parents found out that his grades were suffering. They weren't sure what had happened since he was usually a diligent student, but they suspected it was caused by his newfound addiction to his phone. They also realized that Rudy was spending less time with God. His religious education teacher told his parents that he was often distracted during religious education classes and frequently checking his phone, even during class and services. His parents decided to have a chat with Rudy.

When they sat down with him, they explained to him that although he was not bowing or offering things to his phone, he was still treating it like an idol, because it made him forget about God. Rudy had not even realized the problem until his parents pointed it out to him, and he reluctantly agreed to cut down his phone time. Rudy and his parents worked out a timetable where he would only be allowed to use his phone once he had completed his homework and his Bible studies. After a couple months, Rudy found that he was voluntarily spending less and less time on it, sometimes even forgetting it completely. He also realized that his relationship with God had improved, and that his time at church was once again meaningful and precious to him.



Eze 14:6

Scenario 2

Charlene was the "new kid" at school. She had no friends and was really lonely. One day, she met a pair of girls in the lunchroom who invited her to sit with them. Charlene was so overjoyed! She couldn't believe this was happening. They were the coolest friends in the world. The three of them started to hang out a lot, going to the mall after school. They always went to look for fashion bargains and listen to the newest music.

Charlene felt right at home with her new friends, but her church friends started noticing that Charlene would miss Friday night services. They weren't sure why, but thought it might have something to do with the new friends Charlene had talked about so often. One day, two of Charlene's church friends spoke to Charlene in private and told her how genuinely concerned they were. Charlene had no idea that her new school friends were having such a profound effect on her. Charlene realized that she had been slacking in her Bible reading and devotions to God. Charlene knew she had to give up something.

Her church friends prayed with Charlene on one Saturday afternoon. After the prayer, Charlene knew that she had to turn things around and spend less time with her friends at school. In the coming weeks, Charlene started to associate less and less with her newfound friends. She would still eat lunch with them at school, but she told them that she had to keep up with her studies during the weekdays. After a month, not only was she no longer feeling lonely at school, but she also felt that she was now a lot closer to God than she had been before.



1 Thess 1:9

VESSELS OF GOD

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.”
(2 Cor 4:7)

Read the scenario below and then answer the questions that follow.

Trevor grew up in True Jesus Church, Denver and always loved to be around church. He loved going to RE classes and listening to sermons. He is an avid linguist and speaks Spanish fluently. One day, his J1 teacher asked him if he would like to start interpreting Friday night sermons into Spanish since recently there had been many Spanish-speaking friends attending services. Even though Trevor knows how to speak Spanish, he has always shied away from public speaking and giving presentations. He also felt that he was not good enough and was afraid that he would say the wrong words on the pulpit. He told his teacher that he had to think and pray about it. What if he made a mistake or two in front of the congregation and they laughed at him? What if the sermon speaker used a really hard word that he had never heard before? Trevor was really confused and didn't know what to do.



Trevor decided to talk to his RE teacher and tell her that he was very nervous. She told him to pray about it for a few days and see how he felt afterward. So, for the next few days, Trevor prayed to God for guidance, explaining how he felt and why he was so doubtful. Towards the end of the week, he realized that he felt a lot more calm and comforted about the decision. In fact, he also felt a little more courage and strength about the whole matter. So, on Saturday, Trevor told his RE teacher that he would like to give it a try. After all, God was by his side!

1. Have you ever felt like Trevor before? What feelings did you experience?
2. If you were Trevor's friend, what kind of advice would you tell him?
3. Refer to 2 Corinthians 4:7. How can this verse encourage those who are starting out in holy work?
4. From a spiritual standpoint, what can we do to gain more courage?
5. Have you ever wondered what God's purpose is for you? What must we first do in order to fully know His plan for our lives?

E2 Year 2 Book 3 Lesson 3—God's Mighty Work through Gideon

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Weekly Bible Reading: _____

Bible Reading: Check each box when you complete that day's reading.

Prayer: Check each box after you pray to God that day.

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. (Psalm 28:7a)

True or False

1. When the Angel of the Lord appeared before Gideon, He called Him by name. _____
2. The Midianites were oppressing the Israelites by ruining their food. _____
3. God allowed Midian to oppress His people because they had stopped worshipping Him. _____
4. God allowed Gideon to use twenty-two thousand men to fight the Midianites. _____

Short Answer

5. What name did the Angel of the Lord use to greet Gideon?
6. What two signs did Gideon ask for before battling the Midianites?
7. Why did God say that Gideon had too many men?
8. What steps did God take to reduce the number of men in Gideon's army?
9. The very first task the Angel of the Lord appointed to Gideon was to destroy the altar of Baal and to make an offering to God instead. What kinds of idols are there in our lives, and how can we "destroy" them and turn them into offerings to God?