

## The Dot - 1/14/21

**Bible Stories and Characters:** Gideon

**Bible Passage:** Judges 6:11 - 8:32

**Interviewee:** Samuel Doan



### Overview/Summary

Gideon is known as one of the greatest judges in Israel, but also known for his fear, anxiety, and doubt. Gideon, from the least of the least, receives a call from God to take on the Midianites. Let's highlight two major portions of Gideon's story.

#### Gideon Tested God Using Fleece

When Gideon hears he will save the Israelite people from his oppressors, he doesn't really believe it at first. So he tests God.

- First, he requires God to put dew on a fleece he lays out, instead of on the ground.
- Then, he asks for the opposite, a dry fleece and wet ground.
- Then, once more, the opposite.

#### Gideon and the Army of 300

When God wanted Gideon to bring an army to fight the enormous Midianite army, He brought 32,000 men. God had other plans to show His power.

- He makes Gideon send home anyone who is afraid, which was 22,000 of the army.
- Now, with 10,000 left, God makes them drink water. Only 300 of the men drank water by putting their hands to their mouths. The other 9,700 who knelt to drink are sent home.
- With just 300 men now, Gideon knows he has to rely on God to provide a miracle.

When in battle God tells them to create as much noise as possible by blaring trumpets and smashing jars. This confuses the men in the Midianite camp, and they end up killing each other in the chaos. Gideon and God have victory!

### What We Learn:

God chooses to use people who sometimes seem unlikely. We see that Gideon has a bit of hesitation and triple checks to make sure God wants to use him. His faith was weak, but God met him where he was in order to use him for God's calling for his life.

### Reflection Questions:

- Gideon saw himself as the least in his family, but God saw him as a mighty warrior. Why do you think God chose Gideon, the "least likely" warrior, to be the leader of the Israelite army?
- What are other examples of how God has used "least likely" people to impact our world?
- If God came to you with a big job to do, what things might make you feel inadequate, as Gideon did? Remember: God can use us even though we don't feel very impressive.
- Ephesians 2:10 says 'For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.' God has a plan to use you!