

Going Gideon

Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:21 (NIV)

In those days Israel had no king; all the people did whatever seemed right in their own eyes. Judges 17:6 (NLT)

When they cried out to the Lord because of Midian... (God said to Gideon) "Mighty Hero, the Lord is with you!" Judges 6:7-12 (NLT)

Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" Judges 6:14 (NLT)

"But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" Judges 6:15 (NLT)

The Lord said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man." Judges 6:16 (NLT)

How To Be Used By God:

1. Choose to look and listen for the voice of God.

When they cried out to the Lord because of Midian,... Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!" Judges 6:7, 11-12 (NLT)

2. Listen to what God calls me, not everyone else.

... "Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!" Judges 6:12 (NLT)

3. Use <u>what</u> I have, <u>where</u> I am, and let God take <u>it</u> where He wants it to go.

Then the Lord **turned to him** and said, "Go with the strength **you have**, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" Judges 6:14 (NLT)

4. I must remember who the real battle is with.

The Lord said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."

Judges 6:16 (NLT)

Don't worry over who won't go with me; just embrace those who will.

The Lord told Gideon, "With these 300 men I will rescue you and give you victory over the Midianites. Send all the others home."

Judges 7:7 (NLT)

6. Just do the good thing and let God worry about the results.

Then he said to them, "Keep your eyes on me. When I come to the edge of the camp, do just as I do. Judges 7:17 (NLT)

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Romans 12:21 (NIV)

Going deeper on your own: Read Judges chapters 6, 7, and 8. Why do you think God chose Gideon to be the hero of Israel? Why do you think Gideon was reluctant? What qualified Gideon to do God's work? In this week's message, Pastor Jay stated, "It is hard to fight when you're running in fear." What makes us fearful of doing the will and work of God? Read 2 Timothy 1:7-8, Romans 8:31-38, and 2 Corinthians 5:11-21. Have you ever thought God might be calling you a "Mighty Hero?" This week, pray and ask our Lord how you can be used by Him to fulfill his purpose of peace and reconciliation in someone's life. Pray about it, listen to Him, and then go do it!