

Gideon's Little Army: God Gives Victory

Scripture: Judges 7:1-22

Key Verse: Judges 7:14 "God has given Gideon victory over all the armies united with Midian!"

Bible Lesson

Lesson Goal: The children will know that God will give us victory when we follow Him.

Hook: Before you read the Bible story, demonstrate the story using little play army soldiers or something similar. Show the children just how out-numbered Gideon and his men were on that night. Ask the children if there has been a time in their life when they knew they needed to obey God but they felt out-numbered.

Scripture to read: Judges 7:1-22

You may want to have some of the older children help with the reading. It may also be helpful to read this passage from the New Living Translation. If you have very young children, you may want to read from The Preschoolers Bible. Be sure to let the children see you reading the Bible story from the Bible. It is important that they know that what you are teaching is from God's word. Help the children follow along in their Bible as the passage is read.

Key Principles:

After reading the scripture passage, discuss and emphasize these key principles from Judges 7 with the children.

1. Gideon had a choice, to obey God or to not obey God. He chose to obey.
2. When God promises to help us, we can trust that He will.
3. When we trust God and obey God, He will give us victory!

Application:

The following questions are appropriate for older children.

1. What did God tell Gideon the first time He spoke to him? (verse 2-3)
2. What did God tell Gideon the second time? (verse 4-7)
3. How many men did Gideon end up with in his army? (300)
4. What did Gideon's army take with them to the Midianite camp? (ram's horns and clay jar)
5. What did the Midianite army do when they realized Gideon's army was at their camp? (ran in confusion and fought against each other)
6. Who gave Gideon and his army victory over the Midianites? (God)

The following questions are appropriate for younger children.

1. Which army was bigger, Gideon's or Midian's? (Midian's)
2. Who promises to help Gideon? (God)
3. What happened when Gideon obeys God? (God gives him victory)

Activity

The children will make a victory plaque. First, trace around a small plate on blue construction paper. Cut out the circle. Next, trace a triangle pattern on yellow construction paper and cut out. You will need 8 triangles and one circle for each plaque. Glue the triangles around the edge of the circle like the sun's rays. Write "God gives Us Victory" in the center of the plaque. Punch a hole at the top of plaque. Attach string and tie the end with a knot. Hang in a visible spot at home!

Wrap-up

Review the key verse and the key principles with the children. Remind the children that when given a choice if we obey God he will give us the victory.

Prayer Time: Lead the children in a prayer time. Allow the children to share prayer requests. Remember to pray and ask God to give the children wisdom and strength each day to make the right choice and obey Him.

Toddler Time: The activity in this lesson is appropriate for younger children. You will probably have to assist them in cutting out the circle and triangle and writing "God Gives Us Victory".