

**NIV MEMORY VERSE: Judges 8:23**

But Gideon told them, "I will not rule over you, nor will my son rule over you. The Lord will rule over you."

**EXODUS & POSSESSION 25-1**

**"GIDEON"  
JUDGES 6:1-8:35**

1. What was meaningful to you from the first lesson in Judges?

**DAY 1 READ Judges 6:1-24**

2. a. "Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and for \_\_\_\_ years he gave them into the hands of the \_\_\_\_\_."  
b. Where were the Israelites forced to take refuge?
3. What did the Midianites do when they came into the land? (These very actions had been prophesied as a consequence of disobedience. See Leviticus 26:14-16 and Deuteronomy 28:33)
4. Verses 7-10 tell of God's faithfulness and Israel's disobedience. What personal lesson have you learned as we've studied this repeating cycle this year?
5. The angel of the Lord came to Gideon.
  - a. What was he doing?
  - b. What did the angel call Gideon?
  - c. Psychologists tell us that people live up to their names or labels; i.e., "mighty warrior," "successful businessman," "incompetent student," "loyal friend," "obedient child." What effect might the angel's statement have had on Gideon's future actions?
  - d. By what name are you called? See 1 John 3:1
  - e. How do your actions reflect your name?
6. a. What was Gideon's question in vs. 13?
  - b. . . . fear?
  - c. . . . request?
7. What miracle occurred when Gideon brought the offering?
8. a. When Gideon realized the truth of what he'd seen, how was he reassured?
  - b. . . . how was he reverent?

**DAY 2 READ Judges 6:25-40**

9. a. In constructing the second altar, what was destroyed?
  - b. How was Gideon's fear still in evidence?
  - c. How did Joash defend his son's actions?
10. When did Gideon blow a trumpet to call the men together?
11. a. What miracles occurred concerning the sign of the fleece in verses 36-40?  
First sign: \_\_\_\_\_ Second sign: \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. You hear today of Christians "putting out a fleece." What has been your experience with this?

**DAY 3 READ Judges 7:1-25**

12. a. Why did the Lord want the number of soldiers reduced?
  - b. In what two ways did the Lord reduce the number of soldiers to 300?
  - c. How is this example of God using diminished resources an encouragement to you?
13. a. The enemy was "thick as locusts" in the valley. To appease his fear, what was Gideon encouraged to do?
  - b. What was his reaction in vs. 15?
14. a. Describe Gideon's strategy of surprise.
  - b. What resulted?
  - c. When the men of Ephraim joined the enemy pursuit, what did they accomplish?
15. Think about this encounter with the enemy and answer these questions for yourself:
  - a. Why should my enemy (Satan) be afraid of me? 1 John 4:4
  - b. Why should I use God's plan instead of my own? John 15:5
  - c. Why is light important to my spiritual battles? Psalm 27:1
  - d. How can I be assured of victory? 1 John 5:4-5

**DAY 4 READ Judges 8:1-21**

16. a. How was Gideon received at Succoth and Peniel/Penuel?
  - b. With what did he threaten them?
17. Zebah and Zalmunna were kings of Midian. 120,000 of their swordsmen had already fallen. How many were left for Gideon and his 300 men to fight?
18. After his military victory, Gideon returned to Succoth and Peniel/Penuel as he had promised. What happened in those cities?
19. Why did Gideon kill Zebah and Zalmunna?

**DAY 5 READ Judges 8:22-35**

20. a. What do you see in 8:22-27 that Gideon did . . .
  - . . . right?
  - . . . wrong?
- b. How do you think success can lead someone away from God?
21. During Gideon's lifetime, the land enjoyed peace for \_\_\_\_ years.
22. a. How many sons did Gideon have?
  - b. Who was Abimelech?
23. a. What happened when Gideon died?
  - b. Who was forgotten in verses 34,35?

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**LECTURE NOTES:**

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**