

Life Group Guide Jud 6:1–40 “Helpless or Heroic”
For the Sermon Preached on Sun Jun 25 and For Use in Life Groups through Sun Jul 2

Icebreaker Question

What was your favorite movie when you were younger? Why did you like it?

Pastor Richard’s Sermon Outline

- I. The Reoccurring Problem (vv. 1-10)**
 - a. The Sad Condition
 - b. The Sinful Cycle
 - i. The Reason for Israel’s Problems (v. 1)
 - 1. Departure from God’s Ways (v. 1a)
 - 2. Disobedient to God’s Word
 - ii. The Results of Israel’s Sin (vv. 1vb-6)
 - 1. Defeat by the Enemy (vv. 1b-2)
 - 2. Desperation in Daily Life (v. 2b, 6)
- II. The Reoccurring Doubt**
 - a. Does God really care about us (vv. 1–13)?
 - b. Does God know what He’s doing (vv. 14–24)?
 - c. Will God take care of me (vv. 25–32)?
 - d. Does God keep His promises (vv. 33–40)?

Jud 6:1–10

Read Jud 6:1–10: Observation

1. In Jud 6:1–2, to what people did the LORD hand over Israel? How did the Israelites respond?
2. In Jud 6:3–5, to what were the nations and their destruction compared?
3. In Jud 6:6–10, what did Israel do, and how did God respond? What was said to Israel?

Interpretation

4. Why does Israel have to hear again in this text about their failures since they came out of Egypt? What is troubling about this repetition? What is good about it? Do we struggle with the same problems?

Application

5. What parts of the Bible do you need to re-read again to better learn or re-learn God’s story?
6. What parts of the Bible are most important for sharing your faith with others? How might you use an OT narrative like this one to share your faith with a neighbor?

Jud 6:11–24

Read Jud 6:11–19: Observation

7. In Jud 6:11–12, who spoke to Gideon, and what did he call Gideon?
8. In Jud 6:13–15, what did Gideon ask? What was he commanded? How did Gideon respond?
9. In Jud 6:16–19, what did God promise Gideon? For what did he ask, and what did he offer?
10. In Jud 6:20–21, on what did the angel of God have him pour out the broth? What did the messenger of the LORD do? What happened next?

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11. In Jud 6:22–24, what did Gideon realize? What did the LORD say next?

Interpretation

12. Which character from the Torah does Gideon’s insecurity and reluctance recall? How did God answer the individual from the Torah? How does that response compare to how God answers Gideon?

13. Why do God’s miracles often seem so long ago and far away from His people? What keeps Gideon from understanding the miraculous work of God in his life? Is that also true of us?

Application

14. What changes can you make to your prayer and Bible times so that you can better remember God’s work and His call for your life?

Jud 6:25–40

Read Jud 6:25–40: Observation

15. In Jud 6:25–27, what was God’s command to Gideon? What did Gideon do? When did he do it? Why did he do it at that time? What did he fear?

16. In Jud 6:28–31, what did the men of the city see when they awoke? Whom did they blame? Who defended Gideon?

17. In Jud 6:32, what new name was Gideon given, and what does it mean?

18. In Jud 6:33–35, who fought against Israel? Who moved Gideon to rally an army behind him?

19. In Jud 6:36–40, what two tests did Gideon give of God, and how did God respond to both tests?

Interpretation

20. What did Gideon get wrong about his father? How did Gideon’s actions help his father? How did his father’s actions help Gideon?

21. Why is learning a spiritual lesson so difficult? How does prior success help Gideon? How does prior success seem to have little impact on Gideon himself?

22. What is the difference between man testing God and God testing man? What does God’s patience with Gideon teach us? What does God want from us as we are tested in our lives?

Application

23. Please memorize 6:34. Despite all that went wrong in Gideon’s story, the Spirit of the LORD used him.

24. In what ways might you and your family be testing God rather than obeying God? What can you change in your life to help with that struggle?

25. Who might be convicted and encouraged by your public obedience to God?
