

Discipleship Notes 2: September 2020

“A Brave and Mighty Man”

Judges 6 & 7

Welcome

Ask group members to review the week that was. Have they faced anything that they could easily handle? Invite group members to describe an ‘easy to deal with’ situation from the past week.

Was there anything people faced that looked very difficult to deal with? If so, how did they deal with it?

Take some time, as a group, to pray for one another.

Introduction:

The story of Gideon is located in the book of Judges. The period of the judges extends from the death of Joshua to the coronation of Saul.

Who were these ‘judges’ and what was their role?

In the absence of a king or other national leader, God raised up judges. Their role was to ‘save’ the people of God from their enemies and to encourage the Israelites to live proper lives before God.

As we will see, this was a difficult period in the history of God’s people. A cycle had developed: unfaithfulness was followed by oppression. This was followed by crying out to God and then rescue. It is in this cycle that we find the story of Gideon.

Read: Judges 2:6 – 3: 6

- Describe the state of Israel at the time of Joshua’s death.
- What changed? Why do you think things changed?
- Look at chapter 2 verse 10. How can we help the next generation to know the Lord and what He has done for us?
- What went wrong for Israel? Why was this such an issue?

- We live in a multi-cultural and multi-faith society. How can we avoid the 'sins' committed by Israel while still showing love and respect to our neighbours?

Read: Judges 6: 1-35

- Describe the situation now faced by the people of God.
- What do we know about Gideon? Does Gideon see himself as a leader?
- How do we decide if someone is a suitable leader today?
- List some of the objections raised by Gideon.
- We understand that sometimes God may test us. Is it right for Gideon to put God to the test?

Reading: Judges 7: 1-25

- Why did Gideon have to instigate military cutbacks?
- What happened?
- Could God have achieved this victory without Gideon? Why do you think God chose to involve Gideon?
- In what ways does God invite us to get involved with His work today?

Prayer Pointers:

- Pray for our church leaders and the decisions required as we face this 'new' season
- We remember our government and pray for wise decisions
- We pray for an end to Covid-19 and for all those working on solutions
- We pray Christians facing persecution in nations today.