



# Week 12 (03/24/24)

## JUDGES

### Gideon

Before getting to Gideon, we can first set the scene of the situation within the Book of Judges and where the people of Israel found themselves. The book of Judges it consisted of seven cycles of the pattern of Sin to Salvation to Sin and then Salvation. This pattern begins just one generation after that of Joshua, and was largely in part due to the fact that they did not drive out the people when conquering the Promised Land.

**Read**      **Judges 2:8-10**

What led to such a quick downfall from the previous generation under Joshua was that the people did not pass down the truths about their God. **As a result an entire generation grew up that did not know the Lord.**

**Discuss** - Compare the current spiritual climate in our country and world to this time in the Israelites history. Talk about the importance of remembering who God is, what He has done / is doing and the need to pass our faith to the next generation.

**The problem was that they did not know God personally. Forgetting the promises of the Lord leads to making decisions apart from the Lord.**

**Read**      **Judges 21:25**

This is the climate of Israel at this time. God used 13 Judges, 12 men and one woman who were stopgap leaders, not spiritual leaders.

**Discuss** - How God can use people and events to sometimes lead and guide us to where He wants us. People who stand in the gap and provide assistance when needed.

Gideon is one of these 13 Judges to stand up for Israel. Gideon was chosen by God to lead Israel against the Midianites (an army of about 135,000). Gideon only had about 1/4 of that number (32,000), but God said that was too many. Through a series of events, God reduces the number that was with Gideon to 300 men.

**Discuss** - Why would God reduce the number to so few when the enemy was so large?

The obvious reason is for God to get the glory for the victory. Both the Midianites and the Israelites of this time were worshipping Baal and Asherah. Clearly this was a Spiritual battle. Who else do you want fighting a Spiritual battle, but God? Like Gideon, let us be willing to let go and trust God's process of subtraction, knowing that it leads to a greater multiplication of His work and glory in our lives.

**Discuss** - Share things or attributes that you have allowed God to remove from your life in order to grow spiritually and be better prepared to face obstacles (The Enemy).

**Read**      **Zechariah 4:6** not by our might or power, but by the Spirit of the Lord.

Whenever you do what God wants you to do, you're going to have fallout. God has already secured the victory for our battles, we just need to allow Him to make us into what He wants so that He can use us as He needs.

Close in prayer. Focusing on the things God will SUBTRACT to complete the victory.

Upcoming Events:      [Click Here for the FSWeekly](#)

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| <b>Good Friday Service</b>  | - March 29th @ 7pm in the Student Center          |
|                             | - FS Kids Jerusalem Market @ 7 (1st to 5th grade) |
| <b>Easter</b>               | - 9am+1030am+1145am (Baptisms between Services)   |
| <b>WorldView Wednesdays</b> | - Starting again on April 10th, Wednesday at 6:30 |
| <b>Adult Sunday School</b>  | - Beginning at 10:30 in the Student Building      |