

Faith Over Fear

The story of Gideon in Judges 6 is a powerful reminder of how God calls ordinary people to do extraordinary things when they trust Him. The Israelites were suffering under Midianite oppression because they had turned away from God. It took desperation for them to cry out to Him, and in response, God chose an unlikely hero—Gideon.

A Pattern of Disobedience and Deliverance

The Israelites' suffering was a direct result of their disobedience (Judges 6:1-6). They had forsaken God, so He allowed their enemies to oppress them. Often in life, we struggle with the consequences of our own choices. But like Israel, we have the opportunity to cry out to God in repentance and seek His help. Are there areas in our lives where we have strayed from God and are now experiencing the consequences? If so, the first step is turning back to Him.

God Sees Beyond Our Weaknesses

When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he was hiding while threshing wheat—fearful of the Midianites. Yet, the angel called him a "mighty man of valor" (Judges 6:12). Gideon, feeling weak and insignificant, questioned God's presence and plan. We, too, often focus on our limitations and fears. But God sees us as He created us to be, not just as we are in the moment. Are we allowing fear to hold us back from what God has called us to do?

God's Presence is the Key to Success

When Gideon doubted, God reassured him with these words: *"Surely I will be with you"* (Judges 6:16). That promise changed everything. Our confidence should never be in our abilities but in God's presence and power. Whether facing a personal battle, a calling, or a difficult situation, we must trust that if God has called us, He will equip us.

Confirming God's Will

Gideon asked for signs to confirm that it was truly God calling him (Judges 6:17-24). While we have the Holy Spirit today to guide us, it's okay to seek confirmation from God in big decisions. The key is having a heart that sincerely wants to follow His will, rather than using uncertainty as an excuse for inaction.

Obedience Begins at Home

Before leading Israel into battle, Gideon had to tear down his father's altar to Baal (Judges 6:25-27). His first act of obedience was in his own household. This reminds us that revival and change often start in our personal lives and homes. Are there idols—things we prioritize over God—that we need to tear down?

Faith Requires Bold Action

Gideon gathered an army but still struggled with doubt. He laid out a fleece before God, seeking further confirmation (Judges 6:36-40). While God answered him, we must be careful not to

constantly demand signs before obeying. Faith grows as we step out in obedience, trusting that God is with us.

Conclusion: Trust and Obey

Gideon's story is one of transformation—from fearful to faithful, from hiding to leading. The same God who called him calls us today. Are we willing to trust Him, step beyond our fears, and walk in obedience? The victories we seek often come after the first step of faith.

May we, like Gideon, recognize that God is our strength, our peace, and our victory.