

# THE LIFE OF GIDEON

## 5. Gideon's Assurance




### Introduction

Has there been a time when you thought God wanted you to do something, but you were afraid to do it? You wanted to be very sure it was God speaking to you! Gideon was in that situation. He knew God had called him, but now the enemies were surrounding him and he was afraid. He wanted to be very sure that it was God who had told him to go!

### Scripture Reading: Judges 6:33-40


 What situation faced Gideon and his people at this time?

*(They were surrounded by their enemies.)*


 What happened that prompted Gideon to call his people to arms? What can we learn from this about spiritual warfare?

*(The Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon – there was a supernatural boldness to call his people to war. It is very important in spiritual warfare that we do not go in our own strength, but in the strength of the Lord.)*

The enemy was camped in the Valley of Jezreel, which was between the tribes of Manasseh, where Gideon came from, and the tribes of Asher, Zebulun and Naphtali. No doubt this is why he called these people to help.

 Although the Spirit of the Lord had come upon Gideon to call the men to war, how did he still feel? Why? v36-37


*(It seemed he was still afraid and overwhelmed with the responsibility of leading the people to war. Without God's intervention they would all be killed, and so he wanted to be very sure that God would deliver them.)*


 What sign did Gideon ask God for as an assurance that He would save Israel? v37-38

*(He asked that dew would fall on the fleece and not on the threshing floor.)*

 Why do you think Gideon asked for a second sign in verses 39-40?

*(Perhaps the first sign was something that could happen naturally: the fleece would soak up the dew, while the threshing floor would dry more quickly, and so Gideon still felt unsure. The second time he asks for something that would truly be supernatural. Another reason could simply be that he wanted to be doubly sure that God would deliver them.)*

 Do you think it was right for Gideon to ask God for more assurance? Why or why not? Look at several others in the Word of God who asked God for assurance. Exodus 4:1-3, 2 Kings 20:8-11

 Share a time in your own experience when God confirmed His Word to you in a way that was significant to you.

## **Conclusion**

As we look at God's Word we can see that it is not necessarily wrong to ask God to assure us of what He wants us to do. In fact He promises again and again to guide us, as He knows we struggle with fear. However it is important that we come with hearts that are willing to obey what He tells us to do. If we face a situation like Gideon, and we are uncertain, we just need to ask God to direct our footsteps. And He will!