

THE LIFE OF GIDEON

7. Gideon's Victory




Introduction

At last Gideon and his army are ready for battle! Their victory is an exciting story and is often told as a children's story, but the lessons we learn can apply to both young and old.

Scripture Reading: Judges 7:8-14 and 7:15-23


1. Further Encouragement Judges 7:8-14

 Why did God tell Gideon and his servant, Purah, to go down to the enemy camp? v9-10


(It seems that Gideon was still afraid and God wanted to encourage him to carry out the attack, even though he only had 300 men.)

 What can we learn about God from this incident?


(God knows us so well and is willing to encourage us again and again. Isn't that amazing? He even uses the enemy for His purposes, by giving one man a dream and another the interpretation of the dream. If we allow Him, He will order our footsteps so we can fulfil His purpose in our lives.)


 Share a time when God encouraged you in the midst of a seemingly impossible situation.

2. Final Victory Judges 7:15-23

 What impact did this dream have on Gideon? v15

(He worshipped God as He realized how great God is and how much He cared for his needs. This gave him a boldness to rise up and come against the enemy.)

 List the 'battle plans' that Gideon instructed his men to follow in v17-20.

 What lessons can we learn from Gideon's victory that will help us in spiritual warfare? Ask everyone to read v15-23 again and meditate on them for a few minutes before sharing.

- (a. The army followed Gideon and in spiritual warfare we need to follow God's appointed leader.*
- (b. Just as Gideon followed God's instructions so we need to follow the leading of the Spirit.*
- (c. Just as Gideon's army moved in unity, so must we as the Body of Christ.*
- (d. The weapons Gideon used were not worldly weapons and neither are ours.)*

 What affect did all these things have on the enemy? v21, 22

(It caused the enemy to be filled with fear and become completely confused. Finally they ended up attacking one another.)

 What lessons have you learnt from the life of Gideon that will help you in your spiritual life? Share.

Conclusion

Jesus said that the enemy has come to kill, steal and destroy. This is what Israel's enemies were doing in the time of Gideon. This is not God's will for His people. Jesus came so that we could have life and live in victory. Just as God assured Gideon again and again that He was with him, He gives us the same assurance. "Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you. The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid."

Scripture Memory

Here is a verse to memorize from Ephesians 3:20

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all
we ask or imagine, according to His power
that is at work within us."