

GOD HELPED GIDEON

BABIES
UNIT 2
SESSION 2

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

CONTEXT AND COMMENTARY FOR PERSONAL STUDY AND PREPARATION

(For age-appropriate language, use the Bible story on the following pages.)

Trying to complete a task without the right tools can be challenging, time-consuming, and often frustrating. Throughout the Bible, God asked people to do things that did not make sense, sometimes using tools that did not seem to fit the job (Ezekiel 4; Jeremiah 13; Matthew 17:24-27). More often than not, He used people that did not make sense either.

Due to their sinfulness, the Israelites were oppressed by the Midianites for seven years. Life was hard, yet God's love for His people never wavered. He was preparing to send a leader to deliver them from their oppressors.

Gideon's encounter with God is reminiscent of Moses' encounter at the burning bush (Exodus 3). Gideon, like Moses, was an unlikely choice to lead the Israelites. When God called Gideon, like Moses, he questioned God's choice. Most importantly, God responded to Gideon with a similar response to the one He gave Moses, "But I will be with you."

Scripture is full of stories like this. God often uses unlikely people through unlikely methods to accomplish His plans. Have you ever wondered why?

Had God not done the miraculous in Egypt, the people could have easily been tempted to make a lord out of Moses. Similarly, God handed the Midianites over to Gideon's ragtag band of soldiers so it would be clear who actually delivered them. God repeatedly did impossible things like these to remind His people of who He is and the promises He made to them.

The pattern is clear. The people disobey. God allows consequences. The people turn back to God. God sends a deliverer. It is never the deliverer the people expect. This pattern continues right into the New Testament when the ultimate deliverer arrives as a humble baby. Again, He was not what the people expected, but He was exactly what they needed.

We know that God is in charge of all that happens in the world, but we tend to get uncomfortable when He asks us to trust Him in all things.

TEACHER TIP

Respond to a baby as he seeks your attention in various ways. Look in a baby's eyes, smile, listen, and talk to him. Tell what you are doing as you do each action. Read aloud books. Do motions as you sing. As you respond to a baby, you help encourage his early efforts to communicate with others.



LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God is good.

LIFE POINT

God is good.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE

Judges 7:1-22

BIBLE VERSE

I am God, and no one else is like Me.
Isaiah 46:9

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Leader Bible Studies and Tips

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