

Gideon's Victory
November 30, 2014

Creation, fall, flood, nations, slavery to Egypt, freedom from slavery, disobedience to the Lord (40 yrs), entering into the land, taking and allotment of the land, and last week Gideon's question.

Gideon receives his answer as we see today, to be obedient. God's plan of action in Judges 7:

1) Unlikely leader

- Clan is the weakest and I am the least in my family. Judges 6:15
- Moses stuttered, Abram was a liar and Paul was a killer.
- "God doesn't call the qualified, he qualifies the called." unknown
- God doesn't want our excuses, He wants all of us to be given to all of who He is, and He will do the work. He will qualify us.

-I (you) are that unlikely leader- we are asked to step out on faith. God has called us.

2) Unlikely odds

- 135,000 (Judges 8:10) vs. 30,000 (Judges 7:3) to start off with
- Then 135,000 vs. 10,000
- Then 135,000 vs. 300- that's 1 to 450!!!
- Often times with situations we are in it may seem the "odds" are against us.
- If God is with and for us, who can be against us-"odds" (Rom 8:31). When we look at a situation we then focus on the God of our situation rather than the situation itself.

Our attitude goes from it's "impossible" to "God is with me." God may or may not change the situation, but He will change us if we are obedient.

3) Unlikely encouragement

*If you are afraid to attack, go down to the camp with your servant Purah¹¹ and listen to what they are saying. Afterward, you will be encouraged to attack the camp." So he and Purah his servant went down to the outposts of the camp. **Judges 7:10-11***

Encouragement may come from many places, receive and give encouragement.

4) Unlikely method

*When I and all who are with me blow our trumpets, then from all around the camp blow yours and shout, 'For the LORD and for Gideon. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands. **Judges 7:18-19b***

God's methods sometimes seem weird, don't makes sense, or sounds like they won't work. The method isn't the issue but the focus is the God behind the method.

5) An all powerful God

*When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the LORD caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords. The army fled to Beth Shittah toward Zererah as far as the border of Abel Meholah near Tabbath. **Judges 7:22***

The people were just to be obedient, God would fight for them. God gives the victory! In the victory be sure to be on guard and seeking God always! Judges 8

You and I are that unlikely leader regardless of the "odds" against us. In the battle (and we are in a battle) receive and give encouragement and regardless of the method trust the God behind the method never taking your eyes off of God, trust Him. Trust and obey!