

# **Gideon**

## **What Gideon Did:**

A very long time ago, the people of Israel committed many sins even though they knew they were doing wrong. God punished the people for seven years. He sent the Midianites to ravish their crops so there was no food to eat. The people asked God why they were being punished and God sent a prophet to tell them they had sinned against Him. One day, Gideon was working in his hidden field and an angel appeared to him. The angel told Gideon that he had been chosen to save Israel. The very next day, Gideon took his servants to a hilltop where an altar to worship false idols had been built. Gideon threw those alters away and built an altar to worship God in its place. The day after, the people of the city saw what Gideon had done and were angry, and they wanted to kill Gideon. However, the Lord came to Gideon and helped him create an army. Gideon asked God to send a sign to make sure he was the chosen one to complete the task. He put fleece on the ground and asked God to put dew on the fleece, but not on the ground. God did that and Gideon knew he was chosen. God then asked Gideon to send away those in his army who were afraid. Almost all of the army left leaving him with only 300 men. He went to the Midianites camp and overheard a man telling of a strange dream about a man that brought barley cake. The next day, Gideon took his men, gave them pitchers, lamps and trumpets and led them to the enemy camp. They blew the trumpet and broke the trumpet. The enemies feared the dream was coming true and Gideon won the battle.

## **Find it in the Bible:**

The story of Gideon is mentioned in Judges 6 – 8.

## **Memory Verse:**

Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. Zechariah 4:6

## **Game Idea:**

### *Memory Game*

Use index cards and pictures from magazines or on the Internet to make memory cards. You will need two of each card. Use pictures that relate to the story of Gideon. These may include pictures of an angel, lantern, pitcher, cake, tent, sword, and a trumpet. Lay the cards face down and have the children turn two cards over at a time until they have made all the matches. You might even let the children make their own set to take home.

## **Snack Suggestion:**

Make angel shaped cookies using a cookie cutter and refrigerated sugar cookie dough. Let the children decorate using white frosting and sprinkles.

## **Gideon Craft:**

### *Angel*

Make an angel out of a plastic spoon. Use a small paper doily to make the wings. Cinch it in the middle with a small piece of pipe cleaner. Glue to the back of the spoon. The rounded part of the spoon will be the face. Let the children decorate using markers, wiggly eyes and yarn for hair. Cut a triangle shape from felt and glue this on to the handle of the spoon for the dress.

## **Suggested Prayer:**

Dear Lord, I will trust in you and put my faith in you. I know that when you ask me to do something, great things will happen.

Amen.