



Life Group Study Notes

"Gideon: Project 300"

Ps. James Lowe - July 16, 2017

Warm Up (10-15 minutes)

Choose a question below to answer, or ask another. No right or wrong answers.

- If you could be on any sports team, which would it be? Why?
- What's your favorite board game? Why?
- What sports team would you really want to win a championship? Why?

Word (10-15 minutes)

Sermons can be heard online at www.bethelworld.org

God has selected you for a mission and given you a strategy to stand.

Judges 7:2-8 ESV *The Lord said to Gideon, "The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.'" Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained. And the Lord said to Gideon, "The people are still too many... Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there... And the Lord said to Gideon, "Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set by himself..." And the Lord said to Gideon, "With the 300 men who lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home..."*

Selection

- God has chosen you in Christ to do good works, which he has already prepared in advance. God wants you to believe he has given you an important role to play in the advancement of his mission.
- Like Gideon, God wants you to do more than secure victory in your own life and the life of your household. He wants you to engage in his mission to reach the world with his Gospel and to make disciples who will also advance his kingdom.

Judges 7:9-18 ESV *That same night the Lord said to him, "Arise, go down against the camp, for I have given it into your hand. But if you are afraid to go down, go down to the camp with Purah your servant. And you shall hear what they say, and afterward your hands shall be strengthened to go down against the camp..." And the Midianites and the Amalekites and all the people of the East lay along the valley like locusts in*

abundance, and their camels were without number, as the sand that is on the seashore in abundance. When Gideon came, behold, a man was telling a dream to his comrade... And his comrade answered, "This is no other than the sword of Gideon the son of Joash, a man of Israel; God has given into his hand Midian and all the camp." As soon as Gideon heard the telling of the dream and its interpretation, he worshiped. And he returned to the camp of Israel and said, "Arise, for the Lord has given the host of Midian into your hand." And he divided the 300 men into three companies and put trumpets into the hands of all of them and empty jars, with torches inside the jars. And he said to them, "Look at me, and do likewise. When I come to the outskirts of the camp, do as I do. When I blow the trumpet, I and all who are with me, then blow the trumpets also on every side of all the camp and shout, 'For the Lord and for Gideon.'"

Strategy

- God also has a strategy for you to employ in the pursuit of God's mission. You need to take advantage of all that your church offers to train and send you into the mission field. You also need to seek the Lord and ask him for guidance and wisdom on how to make a difference in the mission field he has assigned to you. And you need to partner with other like-minded believers to do God's work.

Judges 7:19-25 ESV So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outskirts of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, when they had just set the watch. And they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were in their hands. Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the jars. They held in their left hands the torches, and in their right hands the trumpets to blow. And they cried out, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" Every man stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled. When they blew the 300 trumpets, the Lord set every man's sword against his comrade and against all the army... Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Come down against the Midianites and capture the waters against them..." So all the men of Ephraim were called out, and they captured the waters as far as Beth-barah, and also the Jordan. And they captured the two princes of Midian, Oreb and Zeeb. They killed Oreb at the rock of Oreb, and Zeeb they killed at the winepress of Zeeb.

Stand

- If we will obey the Lord and follow his strategy as we engage in his mission, he will ensure that our labor is not in vain. The apostle Paul said that God continually leads us in triumphal victory in Christ as we make the Gospel of Jesus known (2 Co 2:14). God will accomplish through us what he intends to get done.

Discussion (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the points below, and discuss how the lesson applies to our lives.

- Do you believe God has chosen you for an important role to engage in his mission?
- How have you taken advantage of your church's training and outreach opportunities?
- What victories do you want to see God accomplish through you?

Prayer (10-15 minutes)

Pray for any of the following, as well as any other requests you may have.

- Thank God for his having chosen you to engage in his mission here on earth.
- Ask God for direction and strategy to effectively engage in his mission.
- Ask God to link you with like-minded believers to engage in the same mission field.