

THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE



## The Mighty Worrier

**IceBreaker:** What question do you wish people would ask you?

**Read Together:** 1 Corinthians 10:6-14 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

- We have to keep the big picture in mind when we consider the stories in the Bible. Who is God?
- The Book of Judges Contains a Pattern
  - **The people were lured away** by the neighboring people (Canaanites) These people were not simply in the way in the promised land. They had become SO evil, that God needed to destroy them. Their wickedness was so deep, it was time to deal with it. That is why God told His people to completely destroy them!
  - **Oppressed** by an enemy- Every time the Israelites turned away from God's ways to the ways of the Canaanites, God would allow them to suffer. The purpose was to remind them that He was the way to a life of fullness and Joy!
  - **Cry Out** to the Lord – The people would cry out to God for deliverance, and He would rescue them. Every time!
  - **Rescue** by a deliverer – God would send someone to help the people get free. In the book of Judges, the people he used to deliver His people were the Judges. They were not people who held court. They were more problem solvers.
- **This Pattern Repeats Seven times in the book of Judges.**

- **Gideon - The Mighty Worrier**

**Read Together:** Judges 6:1 (ESV), Judges 6:6 (ESV), Judges 6:10 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

- “Everyone did what was right in their own eyes.” Does this phrase sound familiar?

- **Anarchy**
  - A state of disorder due to the absence or nonrecognition of authority
  - Do you see anarchy in our current culture? How does our current culture differ from the Israelites in Canaan? Do you see any similarities in our culture and the culture of Canaan?
  - Give some examples of ways you have seen people demand their own way.
- Are there times that you do not heed the voice of the Lord?

**Read Together:** Judges 6:11-27 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

- God called out something in Gideon that Gideon did not know was there! Have you had a similar experience?
- Have you ever been afraid like Gideon was?
- How might our culture look like the Midianites?
- How do you respond when you hear “The Lord is with you?”
- What is your normal response when faced with struggle or oppression?

**“No sin is worse than the sin of self-pity, because it obliterates God and puts self-interest upon the throne.” Oswald Chambers**

- **Worrier to Warrior!**

**Read Together:** Judges 6:34 (ESV), Numbers 23:19 (ESV)

**Discuss:**

- What did God say?
- Gideon listened to what God said and believed Him.
- Who does God say you are?
- How would your life change if you believed what God says about you?

**Pray together:**

God, please help us to believe what you say more than what our culture says. Help us to believe your might over what our limited perspective can perceive.

Please give us the courage to believe you!