

What a Character!

Week Five

“The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak tree in Ophrah that belonged to Joash his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. The angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and he said, ‘The Lord is with you mighty warrior.’” – Judges 6:11-12

Four Step Process –

1. _____.

“Without a vision people perish.” – Proverbs 29:18

“Peter you’re going to be a rock.” – Matthew 16:18

“‘But sir,’ Gideon replied. ‘If the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all the wonders that the fathers told about us when they said, ‘Did not the Lord bring us out of Egypt? But now the Lord abandoned us and put us into the hands of the Midians.’” – Judges 6:13

“The Lord turned to him and said, ‘Go in the strength that you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?’ The Lord answered, ‘I will be with you. You will strike down the Midianites as if they were but one man.’” – Judges 6:14

God’s responses to our insecurity:

I. _____.

II. _____.

III. _____.

“If God be for us, who can be against us.” – Romans 8:31

2. _____.

“‘If I’ve now found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it’s really you talking to me. Please don’t go away until I come back and bring an offering and set it before you.’ And the Lord said, ‘I’ll wait for you to return.’” – Judges 6:17-18

“When Gideon realizes that it was the angel of the Lord he exclaimed, ‘Ah, sovereign Lord! I have seen the angel of the Lord face to face.’ But God said to him, ‘Peace. Don’t be afraid. You’re not going to die.’ So Gideon built an altar. And he called it ‘The Lord is peace and it stands there to this day.’” – Judges 6:22-23

3. _____.

“That same night the Lord said to him, ‘Take the second bull from your father’s heard, one of seven years old and tear down your father’s altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah. Then build the proper kind of altar to the Lord, your God, on top of this bluff and using the wood of the Asherah, that you cut down, offer the second bull as an offering.’ So Gideon took ten of his servants and he did as the Lord told him.” – Judges 6:25-27

Three ways God may test you –

I. _____.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” – Exodus 20:3

II. _____.

III. _____.

“In the morning when the men of the town got up, there was Baal’s altar demolished and the Asherah beside it cut down and the second bull sacrificed on the altar. They asked each other, ‘Who did this?’ When they carefully investigate they were told Gideon, son of Joash did it.’ So the men of the town demanded of Joash his dad, ‘Bring out your son. He must die because he has broken down Baal’s altar and cut down the Asherah beside it.” – Judges 6:28-30

“Joash replied to the hostile crowd round him, ‘Are you going to plead Baal’s cause? Are you going to try to save him? If Baal is really a god he can defend himself.” – Judges 6:31

Courage is contagious. Faith is infectious.

4. _____.

“Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon (the Spirit clothed himself with Gideon).” – Judges 6:24

“Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan. He was led by the Spirit in the desert. Where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.” – Luke 4:1-2

“At the end of forty days when the devil had finished all his tempting he left him until an opportune time. And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.” – Luke 4:13-14

“That’s too many because I don’t want the people to get the credit for it. I’ll take the credit. It’s going to be a miracle. So, Gideon, you tell every one of those 32,000 people who are afraid to go home.” – Judges 7:2-3

“That’s still too many. I want you to do a test. Take them down to the river. Those who get down and lay on their stomachs to get a drink, drinking straight out of the water, send them home. Those who hold their spear to their side and lap up water with their hands, and keep looking for the enemy, those are the trained ones.” – Judges 7:4-6

“Here are the tools you’re going to take into battle. Number one, give every one of those 300 men a clay pot. Then not only that, give everybody a horn. And number three, give everybody a torch.” – Judges 7:15-16

“When I say ‘Go!’ you tell the men to blow the trumpets, to shout, ‘For the Lord and for Gideon!’ and to break the clay pots. The light will shine out and just a few men will look like thousands. In their panic the enemy will begin to fight each other.” – Judges 7:17-20
