

CHAPTER NINE VERSES & EVENTS

COLORING BOOK ALL-STARS GIDEON

TODAY'S VERSES

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9
JOSHUA 24:15
JUDGES 3:7
JUDGES 6:1-17
JUDGES 6:22

JUDGES 6:25-27
JUDGES 6:33-35
PSALMS 32:8
PSALMS 48:14
JUDGES 7:1-8

JUDGES 7:15-25
JUDGES 8:22-23
JUDGES 8:27
JUDGES 8:33-34
EZEKIEL 36:26-27

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

Want to meet someone new,
the leadership of Element
or get plugged in?
You're invited to our
Connect Dessert Party
Sunday, Sept 20, 5pm!

CONNECT PARTY

BAPTISMS
SEPTEMBER 6TH, 1PM
1371 SOLOMON ROAD

Baptisms are coming up in two weeks! Stay for Labor Day BBQ, bring your own drinks and last names A-L bring cookies or M-Z bring salad to share!
If you want to be baptized, the last info classes are after each service
NEXT Sunday, 8/30!

All Jr High & High School STUDENTS are invited to come to Youth Night this Thursday, August 27th at 6:30pm!
All PARENTS of Jr High and High School students are invited to an informational meeting next Sunday, August 30th at 12:30pm!

YOUTH MINISTRY



CHAPTER NINE

GIDEON

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Welcome to Coloring Book All Stars Week 9. We are taking 12 weeks to look at “heroes” in the Bible, those you would see in the pages of kids coloring books, comic strips or even cartoons. These are the stories and people we have lifted up to place of near perfection. We’re taking a close look at how the Bible shows them as messed up men, people as messed up as we are. This week we look at Gideon.

When was the last time you felt overwhelmed?

Why did you feel overwhelmed?

What do you do when you feel overwhelmed?

The story of Gideon begins with Israel being in an intense period of suffering where the Midianites and Amalekites would plunder the land on a yearly basis and leave them with nothing. This happened every single year for seven years, but during this time the Israelites forgot who God was and did not cry out for deliverance.

When suffering comes into your life, what do you typically pray for?

Are you more concerned with being delivered from your painful circumstances or with learning what God is trying to teach you through it?

The Israelites wanted to be delivered from their suffering, but God (knowing their hearts) did not decide to initially intervene in the way the Israelites would have wanted. Instead of picking someone to destroy their enemies, God sent a judge (all the deliverers in the book of Judges are called ‘judges’) who showed the Israelites that the problem is not what they thought it was; the problem was not Midianites, the problem was the Israelites. They stopped serving their King, God. That is a harsh dose of truth. God was less concerned about the suffering that was brought about at the hand of the Midianites because He cared more about Israel’s heart.

Read Judges 6:13.

When you are suffering do you feel like God has abandoned you?

What are some of your doubts... about yourself... about God?

Gideon responds to God’s calling with a list of his inadequacies (Judges 6:14-15). God does not let Gideon’s doubts define their relationship and God continually reveals Himself to Gideon to show His goodness and power.

How has God used you in your failures or weakness?

God used Gideon to crush the Israelites enemies in a way that made it clear that it was God who delivered the Israelites and not Gideon. Despite all God had done to ensure that the victory was so miraculous that everyone should have seen it was given by God rather than earned by Gideon, we see in Judges 8 that disunity and disloyalty to God returns to the tribes of Israel. It seems Gideon himself had forgotten “the lesson of the 300,” as he feels he should receive honor for what he has done when the point was it was what GOD had done.

Do you try and take credit for what God has done? In what ways?

Do you try to pawn off your mistakes on God? How?

The lesson we learn from the story of Gideon is a reminder of the ever present power of the Spirit of God. Gideon was able to do what he did, not because of his own mental prowess or battle abilities, but simply because of the Holy Spirit’s strength in him. Gideon was worn ‘like a glove’ by God’s Spirit in order to bring about God’s purposes.

Is there any way that people misunderstand God’s Spirit using us today?

How do people take God’s glory for themselves?

Has God’s Spirit ever used you like He used Gideon?

In the Old Testament, God’s Spirit came on individuals at certain times and places, but He did not dwell in man. Today, after Jesus’ death and resurrection, God’s Spirit lives in those who trust Jesus (Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 3:16). Maybe you feel discouraged and inadequate, you understand your weakness, remember that God will work in our weakness to show Himself strong. He wants us to know that true strength and blessing come from Him alone. We must trust in Him and believe His promises for us, chief of which is that He has sent His son into the world to redeem us from our sin, and that He is making all things new, even us.

In what ways has God remade you and people you know?

How can that be made known to those who need to hear it?