

## Unit 9 • Session 3 Gideon

**BIBLE PASSAGE:** Judges 6–8

**STORY POINT:** God showed Gideon that victory comes from Him.

**KEY PASSAGE:** 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

**ACTIVITY:** Knock 'em down

Gather the kids on one side of the room. Stack plastic cups on the far side of the room. Allow the kids to take turns tossing hollow plastic baseballs at the cups, trying to knock them over. You may form teams of kids and make it a competition, or play a version where one kid aims for a specific cup and other kids must try to hit the same cup. **SAY** • In our story today, we will learn about a man named Gideon. God used Gideon to defeat the enemies of God's people. One of the first things Gideon did was knock down altars to false gods. We will learn more about the things Gideon did soon.

**BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION:**

1. Why was Gideon afraid to obey God? (*He was the youngest son from the weakest family in Israel, Judg. 6:15*)
2. What signs did Gideon ask God for? (*a fleece to be wet and the ground dry, then the fleece to be dry and the ground wet; Judg. 6:36-40*)
3. What did God do to reduce the size of Gideon's army? (*First, God told Gideon to send home those afraid. Then God told Gideon to send home many men based on how they drank water; Judg. 7:3-8*)
4. Why did God want Gideon to fight with such a small army? *Guide kids to understand that God was teaching Gideon, and all His people, that He was enough to protect them and give them victory. God did not want the people to boast about their victory but to worship Him instead.*
5. What are some ways God gives us victory today? *Guide kids to discuss the fact that God can give us victory in many ways. When we need healing, when we need peace, when we need wisdom to make choices, God can provide us with those things. Help kids see that through Jesus' death and resurrection, our greatest victory, over sin and death, is secure.*
6. What are some things people trust in or boast in today? *Help kids see that many boast in wealth, success, fame, or material comforts. Remind kids that those things, though they can be nice, are not able to save us. We need Jesus to save us and should boast only in Him.*

**QUESTIONS FROM KIDS VIDEO:**

Prompt kids to think about things they do and do not do well. Guide them to discuss ways they feel weak and need God to help them.