**Gideon**

**The Journey from Discouragement to Destiny**

**Key Verses**

**Judges 6:1-13**

**Lesson Overview**

Israel was once again in bondage for their disobedience. God sent a prophet to call Israel to repentance, but they also needed a deliverer. God chose Gideon, an unlikely candidate in men's eyes, to deliver Israel from the Midianites. Gideon gathered Israel's army, and God thinned out the troops until the victory could only be a miracle of God. God used an unlikely general, and He received all the glory from the victory.

**Lesson Aim**

Many of us doubt our abilities and hide behind our feelings of inadequacy. We feel that God has a destiny for us to fulfill, but through our human reasoning, we do not see how we can reach that goal. That's what your journey for the faith is about. God knows what He has called you to do, and He knows exactly what qualities you need to fulfill that purpose.

He promises to supply your every need and to strengthen your confidence in Him on your journey for the faith.

**Lesson Goals**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students should:

* Understand the hindrances of living in fear.
* Trust God with feelings of inadequacy or insecurity. Choose to allow God to grow and prove their faith.
* Recognize God's provision when they respond to him in faithful obedience.

**Teaching Outline**

I. The Paralysis of Fear

A. Fear leads to isolation.

B. Fear leads to discouragement.

II. The Proving of Faith

A. Faith is not self-confident.

1. The fearful were released.

2. The negligent were released.

B. Faith is God-confident.

1. God saw Gideon's potential.

2. God blessed Gideon's faith.

III. The Provision for the Faithful

A. God provides wisdom.

1. Stand in your place.

2. Hold your trumpet and your light.

B. God provides tenacity.

**Memory Verse**

**2 TIMOTHY 1:7**

*For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.*

**Study Questions**

1. According to Judges 6:12, how did God see Gideon?

2. According to Judges 6:14-15, what were Gideon's objections to God's call?

3. What kind of effect does fear have on the life of a Christian?

4. Fear led to two specific results in Gideon's life. What were they?

5. God proved Gideon's faith by removing human instruments and military strength. In your life, are you depending on something other than the Lord? If so, what is it and what steps can you take to become more "God-confident"?

6. God promises His provision when we walk by faith. What two types of provision did God give to Gideon?