

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

JUDGES 6

Judges 6

Judges six is a strange story to the western mind and should be. Gideon in many ways has the same mindset of Moses. God tells him what to do and he argues that the God who is asking him to do something is impotent when it comes to enabling him to accomplish what he has asked. Gideon and his fleece are often cited as a way of determining God's will. While I want to be gentle and kind here, I also want to be firm and help everyone to understand how God works. First, this is the only time that a "fleece" is used to test God. Not only was God gracious to Gideon, but He allowed Gideon great mercy in that He continued to use him despite his doubts and fears in trusting God. The way Gideon determined the will of God should be the exception and not the rule.

First, please know that God had already told Gideon very specifically what he wanted him to do and accomplish. In verses 11-16 God could not have spoken any more clearly than He did. God said, I am with you. Gideon replied, how can that be the case since things are not going our way

and our enemies are getting the best of us and we seem powerless to fight against them. Why isn't God doing all the miracles now that we heard He did when He delivered the people from Egyptian bondage? The LORD has forsaken us! WOW! Can you believe He put everything back on God, just like his forefathers coming out of Egypt did; they blamed God. God clearly spoke. They didn't listen; neither did Gideon. Verse 15 sounds just like Moses. Verse 16 God once again tells Gideon plainly, **"Surely, I will be with you and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man."** Now Gideon is wanting a sign. God's words were not good enough for Him. He came up with a plan, let me give an offering and see if it is acceptable. Gideon did so and God consumed it in front of him with just a touch. Gideon even said I have seen God face to face, but it still was not enough!

Prayer and Action Steps

Has God told you in the Scriptures and through reading the Bible something to do? Don't wait on a sign in disbelief. Trust God! Lord, we believe, help our unbelief.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
