

## Gideon: From Fear to Faith

Judges 6

- I. Sin causes fear and desperate situations (Judges 6:1-10)
  - A. Israel's sin led to a terrible oppression by the Midianites who terrified everyone (6:1-6).
  - B. Israel cried out to God who sent a prophet to remind them of God's love, but also to rebuke them (7-10).
    - God disciplines those He loves (Hebrews 12:6).
    - When facing consequences for sin, remember how God has shown you His love!
- II. God grows our faith as He calls us to overcome our fears and obey Him (Judges 6:11-40)
  - A. Gideon fearful and insecure (6:11-32)
    1. Gideon was hiding when God called him (11-14).
    2. Gideon felt insecure about his inferior family (15-16).
    3. Gideon doubted God would really speak to him (17-21).
    4. Gideon was afraid of God's power (22-24).
    5. Gideon obeyed God, though he feared what his father, family and townspeople would do (25-30).
      - We may have to choose between pleasing family or pleasing God.
      - We must choose to worship God alone!
    6. God rewarded Gideon's faith. Dad became his ally (31-32)!
  - B. Gideon empowered by the Spirit (6:33-40)
    1. Gideon called others to serve God as the Spirit empowered him (33-35)
      - We overcome fears and insecurities only by the Spirit.
    2. Gideon still needed reassurance from God and God gave it (36-40).
      - Uncertainty is normal, even when we obey God.
      - God understands our doubts and helps us work through them (fire, fleece [ch. 6], dream [ch. 7]).