

Gideon: Faith in the Greatness of God

Judges 7

- I. God grows our faith by removing what we are trusting in (Judges 7:1-8).
 - A. God told Gideon that he needed *less* soldiers so that God would get the credit for victory (7:1-2).
 - B. Gideon sent home 22,000 who were afraid (7:3).
 - C. Gideon sent home all but 300 of the remaining 10,000 (7:4-8).
 - Gideon sent home 99% of the original recruits! They now faced an army of 135,000 (8:10) with 300 men!
 - Human quantity is unnecessary for divine accomplishment (1 Samuel 14:6-23)!
 - The reason why God removes what we trust in is so that He will get the glory for what we do (Judges 7:2)
 - God's power is always devoted to God's glory.

- II. God grows our faith by encouraging and reassuring us (Judges 7:9-18).
 - A. God offers Gideon encouragement by a dream (7:9-14)
 - God encourages us when we obey in faith!
 - B. Gideon worshipped God and encouraged, prepared for battle (7:15-18).
 - Real worship comes from really needing God.

- III. God grows our faith by showing His power when we trust Him (Judges 7:19-25).
 - A. The Battle God won (7:19-21).
 - *Trumpets, torches and jars.* God can use anything!
 - B. The Midianites awake and destroy each other (7:22)
 - *Turned on each other.* God doesn't need us at all!
 - C. The dismissed Israelite soldiers are called out to help finish off the retreating Midianites (7:23-25).