

# His Word is Enough

Judges 6:11-16, 25-27

## This Week's Focus

It can be difficult to get to the bottom of God's will for our lives. In fact, if we are honest, many of us find it frustrating to find clarity from God on what we should do, where we should live, or who we should marry. We wish God would write the answers to these important questions in the clouds so that we could walk confidently in His will.

Gideon asked for such a sign. It is important to note, however, that at the point when he asked for the sign, Gideon already knew God's will. It was his lack of faith, not a lack of clarity, that was holding him back. The same is true for us. While there are specifics about God's will that He has not directly revealed to us, He has clearly told us the most important things about His will for us through His Word.



Begin by reading the passage through two times.

## Judges 6:11-16, 25-27

**11** The Angel of the LORD came, and He sat under the oak that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash, the Abiezrite. His son Gideon was threshing wheat in the wine vat in order to hide it from the Midianites.

**12** Then the Angel of the LORD appeared to him and said: "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior." **13** Gideon said to Him, "Please Sir, if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened? And where are all His wonders that our fathers told us about? They said, 'Hasn't the LORD brought us out of Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to Midian." **14** The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and deliver Israel from the power of Midian. Am I not sending you?" **15** He said to Him, "Please, LORD, how can I deliver Israel? Look, my family is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house." **16** "But I will be with you," the LORD said to him. "You will strike Midian down as if it were one man."

**25** On that very night the LORD said to him, "Take your father's young bull and a second bull seven years old. Then tear down the altar of Baal that belongs to your father and cut down the Asherah pole beside it."

**26** Build a well-constructed altar to the LORD your God on the top of this rock. Take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah pole you cut down." **27** So Gideon took 10 of his male servants and did as the LORD had told him. But because he was too afraid of his father's household and the men of the city to do it in the daytime, he did it at night.

Share about a time when you wished God would give you a clear sign so that you would know His will for your life.

Why do you think God often does not speak directly to us or give us clear signs like He did for many people in the Old Testament?



## Judges 6:11-16

Look back at verses 1-10. What situation did the Israelites find themselves in? Why do you think they kept falling back into this same cycle?

Where was Gideon's focus (vv. 11-14)? Why do you think he hesitated to believe the word from God that was delivered to him by the angel?

### Overcoming Fear

The story of Gideon focuses on his struggle to overcome fear. The Midianites, along with other eastern peoples, had oppressed Israel for seven years. The Lord came to Gideon and challenged him to lead Israel like a "mighty warrior" and even reduced his troops, forcing Gideon to look to God to deliver him.

Despite Gideon's personal feelings, God referred to him as a "mighty" warrior (v. 12). Why did God choose this title? What does it reveal about God's plans for Gideon's life?

How did the Lord respond to Gideon? How might God's message to Gideon encourage us as we seek God's will? How might these words empower us to live on mission?



## Judges 6:25-27

For context, Look back at verses 17-24. What did God ask Gideon for (v. 17)? How did Gideon respond when God answered his request (v. 22)?

What did Gideon do to the altar of Baal? What did this act communicate about God? About Gideon's faith?

Where did Gideon find the strength to do this?  
What can we learn from his example?

Was there anything lacking in Gideon's faith (v. 27)?

What affect did Gideon's act have on his father? How might even the smallest act of faith have a ripple affect on those around us?



## Central Truth

The truth of God's Word empowers us to live for His glory.

### Now What?

How can you know God's will? How might focusing on what you know about God's will help you to grow in your walk with Christ?

What fears or insecurities do you have about living on mission for Christ?  
How might knowing God's will for you help you overcome these fears?

In what areas of your life is your faith mixed with fear?

Journal a prayer to God asking Him to help you rest in the truth of what you know about His will in Scripture. Pray that these promises would empower your mission.



## Personal Challenge

**Dwell:** Journal a list of actions and things from Scripture that are part of God's will for you to do (i.e. love God, love your neighbor, share the gospel, care for the needy, etc.). Once you have compiled a list, take some time to pray that God would give you opportunities to do each of these things. Pray that He would burden your heart to engage in these things for the sake of His kingdom and glory.

**Memorize:** Judges 6:16

**Pray:** Ask God to help you submit to and live out of His will for your life. Pray that He would reveal to you the areas of your life that are not submitted to His kingdom and glory. Ask God for the courage necessary to commit to and engage in His mission for the world.

## Keep on Digging

Read Matthew 22:34-40. What does this passage teach you about God's will for your life? Augustine once said, "Once for all, then a short precept is given to you: Love, and do what you will . . ." Augustine wasn't saying that we can do whatever we want to as Christians, but rather that if we really do love God with all our hearts, if He really is most important to us, we won't be paralyzed by not knowing specific answers about God's will for our lives. This doesn't mean that we won't have questions about the details of our lives, but if our focus really is on Christ, we don't have to live in fear of making the wrong decisions and messing our lives up.