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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1468 ~ Gideon's Victory.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

Today's story in the book of Judges Chapters 7 and 8, tells how Gideon faced the biggest test of his life. It was very scary! He had already obeyed God and pulled down the altar of the false god Baal. **Now**, God called him to defeat the great army of the Midianites. Gideon raised an army of Israelites to help him. Of course it was not nearly as big as the enemy army and many Israeli fighters realized they were hopelessly outnumbered. They were afraid they would be killed.

A destructive fear like that meant that those men could not fight effectively in the battle. Such fear is an unpleasant emotion we must all try to overcome at times. But there is helpful fear too: Fear of pain stops us putting our hands in a fire. Fear of God helps us to live right and to love and serve Him.

God knew the thinking of those fearful soldiers. They did not trust Him to give Israel the victory. So they had to go home. Then Gideon was commanded to give the remaining men a test about drinking water. Most of the men were over-confident. They believed God would give the victory so they never bothered to be watchful while drinking. Enemy scouts could have come down upon them and caught them at a disadvantage.

Over-confidence can be a trap. We never know when God is using the everyday things of life to test our faith. We must be constantly on guard because sometimes we do not know what the lesson was until we have failed the test. All the over-confident men had to go home too.

God gave Gideon only 300 men to defeat the enemy.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound](#).

I wonder how **you** would have felt if **you** were Gideon and God told you to get rid of most of your fighting men? Would you have argued with God? Was that too **foolish** a thing to do? After all, the great Midianite army was ready to attack. Gideon had to **really** believe God's plan would work. God did not want the Israelites boasting after the promised victory that they did it all by themselves.

God understood Gideon's fear. He also understands **our** fear when we face great troubles. He has many ways to work out His purposes. **This** time he let Gideon know there was great fear in the **enemy's** camp! **Their** soldiers had become afraid of **Gideon** and of **Israel's God**.

Of course, the Midianites had not expected an attack in the middle of the night. The sudden noise of trumpets all around, pottery smashing, men shouting, and the fiery torchlights terrified them as they woke up. They panicked and fled. Soon many other Israelites joined in chasing them back to their own land. It was a great victory. But there is a sadness too. Nowhere in the Scriptures is there an account of the Israelites giving thanks to God for all He had done in providing them with security and peace again.

We all ask God for many things and when some are provided, we quickly forget and fail to give the praise and thanks to God that we should. We ought to be thankful to God in all circumstances. A thankful heart comes from a genuine love of God.

Perhaps you are facing great problems in your own life. Do you believe that God can help you? God send the Lord Jesus into the world to show people how caring He is for people.

The Lord Jesus suffered dreadfully on a cross to die for the sins of all the people in the world. Do you believe that? Have you asked the Lord Jesus Christ to be in charge of you life? Ask Him to forgive all your faults and failures. Then trust in Him no matter what happens to you.

If you are God's child through faith in the Lord Jesus, He is ready to help you. God at times sends trials and troubles to develop patience in us. We often long dreamily for days without difficulties, but God knows better. The easier our life, the weaker our spiritual character, for strength of any kind grows only by effort. Once a great scholar in China said, "A wise person seeks opportunities in difficulties." Problems will draw us closer to God if we let them. Then we can overcome them through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Although Gideon had doubts he could achieve what God wanted him to do, he obeyed. Other Bible heroes also obeyed God and did what seemed foolish to the people around them. Moses travelled all the way back to Egypt to lead the Hebrew slaves out into desert to worship God. Noah built a great boat to save the animals and his family from the promised flood – and everyone thought he was mad! There is a whole list of people of great faith in the Bible book of Hebrews Chapter 11 and Gideon's name is there too. All of them acted in faith, because they believed God knew better than they did.

A pastor's five year old daughter came to him and asked him for a dolls house. He promised to build her one and went back to reading his book. Not long afterwards he saw his daughter carrying piles of things to put into her dolls house. The pastor enquired of his wife what their daughter was doing. She said, "You promised to build her a dolls house and she believes you. She is just getting ready."

The pastor threw aside his book and set off to build the house. He said he had given his word and his daughter had believed it and acted upon it. When he saw the child's faith, nothing could keep him from carrying out his word.

The Bible book James, chapter 1, says this, “If any of you lacks wisdom, he should pray to God, Who will give it to him; because God gives generously and graciously to all. But you must believe, and not doubt.”

MUSIC - [Integrity Music](#).

That was John Wesley Ryles with the song ‘Let Him Ask In Faith.’

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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