



# Gideon Goes to Battle

Lesson Aim: To know we can trust God.

## THE WORSHIP

**Who God Is:** The King Who Watches Over Us

## THE WORD

**Bible Story:** Judges 7:17-21

**What He Has Done:** God gave Gideon and His people a victory.

## THE WAY

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

Unit 7: The King Who Watches Over Us			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
33	Deborah, the Judge, Judges 4:4-5; 5:7	God gave the Israelites a judge named Deborah.	To know God gives us people to help us.
34	Gideon Goes to Battle, Judges 7:17-21	God gave Gideon and His people a victory.	To know we can trust God.
35	Samson and the Gate, Judges 13:5; 16:2-3	God made Samson strong.	To know God makes us strong.
36	Ruth and Naomi, Ruth 1:8-18	God gave Ruth and Naomi a special friendship.	To know God gives us special friends.
37	Samuel and Eli, 1 Samuel 3:1-10	God called Samuel.	To know we should listen to God.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 44:1-8. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for always being with us. Help us trust Your plan as we teach the children that You are the One who wins our victories for us. To You be the glory. Amen."

## TEACHER'S TIP

**Trust.** We can help the children learn to trust God by showing them they can trust us. It is common for 2's and 3's to experience separation anxiety when they are dropped off. When children arrive in class, smile and greet Mom and Dad. That tells children you have Mom and Dad's approval. Be confident as you lead them toward an activity of their choosing. Have a routine when children are dropped off. Young children find comfort (as we all do!) in routine.



**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Welcome</b>	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a trumpet or horn
		<b>Coloring Center:</b> Gideon Goes to Battle	Coloring pages of Gideon in battle, crayons or markers
		<b>Play-Dough Center:</b> Follow His Words	Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools
		<b>Activity Center:</b> What Was That?	Bag, musical instruments (or other items that make noise)
	<b>Game Center:</b> Listen and Play	None	
	Up to 5	<b>Prepare for Worship</b>	None
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org.  <b>Additional Song Suggestions:</b> "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"	Praise music, optional: musical instruments, rope <b>Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "I Can Do Everything" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled" "He Is Mighty to Save" "Here Am I" "I Am with You" "I Will Listen" "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" "Sing Praises"
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 34
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Watch the Word:</b> Judges 7:17-21	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Judges 7:21 Visual: Picture of the Bible story or a trumpet, toy trumpet or party horn
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Craft:</b> Gideon's Torch	Small paper plate, paper streamers (red, orange, and yellow), stapler and staples, labels or white paper, tape, crayons or markers
		<b>Game:</b> Let's Blow Our Trumpets!	"Gideon's Torch" crafts, trumpets (kazoos, paper tubes, cups, or imaginary trumpets)
		<b>Game:</b> Trust God's Plan	Bible (bookmark Psalm 69:13, John 15:7, and Psalm 66:8), praise music
	<b>Snack:</b> Trumpet Time	Horn or tube-shaped snack	
	Final 5	<b>Final Five</b>	Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's: Unit 7, Lesson 34
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Say &amp; Do:</b> Judges 7:17-21	None
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Jesus Gives Me Strength!	Soft ball for rolling
	Up to 10	<b>Game:</b> Memory Verse Echo	None
	Up to 10	<b>Story Time</b>	Any story about trusting God's plan

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



The King who watches over us

## THE WELCOME

### WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello \_\_\_\_\_.** I'm glad you are here! **Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a trumpet or horn. **Let this stamp (or sticker) of a trumpet help you remember to trust God's plan. Gideon and his army trusted God's plan and blew their trumpets.**

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**Teacher's Note:** These activity centers are designed to reinforce the lesson through hands-on learning experiences either individually or in small groups with the guidance of the teacher. Choose the Bible Activity Centers that best suit the children in your class. Set up the activity centers around the room before children arrive. Allow children to move freely among them.

### COLORING CENTER: GIDEON GOES TO BATTLE

#### **SUPPLIES**

Coloring pages of Gideon in battle, crayons

#### **DO**

Children color their picture as they talk about today's story.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**God sent Gideon to lead His people, the Israelites, against their enemy. Gideon trusted God to help them. What is Gideon blowing on? (A horn or trumpet.) Can you pretend to blow a horn?** Show the children how to form a trumpet by closing your hand, holding it up to your mouth, and pretending to blow. **God told Gideon to make lots of noise to scare their enemy away and it worked!**

### PLAY-DOUGH CENTER: FOLLOW HIS WORDS

#### **SUPPLIES**

Play-dough, cookie cutters, play-dough tools

#### **DO**

Children play with the play-dough while talking about their favorite Bible stories. Encourage children to make a Bible with the play-dough.

#### **TALK ABOUT**

**God wants us to follow Him. We can listen to Bible stories to know what He wants us to do. When we follow His words in the Bible, we are trusting God! What is your favorite Bible story? (Children respond.)**

# THE WELCOME *continued...*

## ACTIVITY CENTER: WHAT WAS THAT?

### SUPPLIES

Bag, musical instruments (or other items that make noise)

### DO

Gideon's use of lights and noise is introduced by having the children identify different musical instruments.

### TALK ABOUT

**In our story today, God helps Gideon lead His people to fight their enemy. In the middle of the night, Gideon and his men snuck into the enemy's camp and yelled, blew their horns, broke jars, and shone bright lights. The enemy was so scared, they ran away! In this bag, I have five musical instruments. Let's see if you can guess what they are.** Play one instrument at a time without the children seeing what you have. See if the children can guess what it is. **Optional:** Play praise music while the children march around the room, playing the musical instruments.

## GAME CENTER: LISTEN AND PLAY

### SUPPLIES

None

### DO

Children play a game about listening.

### TALK ABOUT

**Do you know how to do everything?** (Children respond.) **No, no one knows how to do everything. Do you know who does?** (God.) **If we listen and obey God, we can trust Him to teach us what we need to know. We have a new game. Listen and I will tell you how to play. Let's stand in a circle.** Choose a child to stand in the middle. Have the children repeat after you, "child's name, child's name, **teach us what to do!**" The child in the center performs an action such as jumping, touching their toes, clapping, waving their arms, or spinning around. The other children copy the action. Repeat until each child has a turn.

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## PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

**It's time for Praise Time. Let's sing a "Clean Up Song" as we put things away.** Praise children as they help clean.

**Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!  
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SIGN LANGUAGE

(For visual demonstrations, see [www.signingsavvy.com](http://www.signingsavvy.com))

<b>"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13</b>	(I) Point to self. Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body. (Him) Point to heaven. (gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body. Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner. Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.
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Adding sign language or motions to the Bible Memory Verse helps children recall what they are learning.



The King who watches over us

# THE WORSHIP

**Supplies:** Praise music, optional: musical instruments, rope

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" as children move to that designated area.



**Is God always with us? (Yes.) Who can we depend on to help us? (God.) Did you know you can always trust God? (Children respond.) Let's talk with Him right now.** Have children bow their heads and close their eyes. **Dear God, thank You for always being with us. Help us to trust You in everything we do. Amen.**



**We never have to be afraid because we know God is always with us.** Sing: "Do Not Let Your Hearts Be Troubled."

**In our Bible story, we will hear how God cares for Gideon and his army. God wanted Gideon to be ready to do what He asked. God asks us to be ready to do what He asks, too. As we give our offering, let's tell God we're willing to go where He sends us.** Sing: "Here Am I" as background music while collecting the offering.



**God gave Gideon and his army the courage and strength to bravely blow their trumpets. God gave Gideon the victory. Our Bible Memory Verse tells us God will give us the strength we need. Let's say our verse together with the motions.**

**"I can do everything**

(I) Point to self.

Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body.

**through Him who gives me**

(Him) Point to heaven.

(gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body.

**strength."**

Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.

**Philippians 4:13**

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.



**Do you think Delbert and Lello know anything about trumpets? Let's call them out here and see!** Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: Kings & Kingdoms Unit 7, Lesson 34.



**God gave Gideon and his army the courage and strength to bravely blow their trumpets. God gave Gideon the victory.** Sing Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse Song: "I Can Do Everything."



Gideon trusts God

## THE WORD

**Supplies:** Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Judges 7:21, picture of the Bible story or a trumpet, toy trumpet or party horn

**Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.**

<b>With my eyes on my teacher;</b>	Point to eyes.
<b>My mouth quiet as can be,</b>	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
<b>I will listen to hear,</b>	Cup hand around ear.
<b>How God loves you and me.</b>	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

**Let's reach deep in our pockets and pull out our listening ears.** Reach in your pocket and cup your hands behind your ears as if listening.

**When God's people, the Israelites, went into battle, they would blow horns to announce they were coming. Let's all pretend to blow our horns.** Show the children how to form a trumpet by closing your hand, holding it up to your mouth, and pretending to blow. **That's great. Our story, today, is about Gideon and the Israelites. When it's time, I want you to be ready to blow your trumpets. Let's listen to our story.** Handle the Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Judges 7:21.



### WATCH THE WORD: JUDGES 7:17-21

Read the story below or retell the passage in your own words. To illustrate the story, show a picture of the Bible story or a trumpet from a children's Bible, the coloring page, or other source.

Have the children blow their imaginary trumpets when mentioned in the story.

- **One day the Lord told Gideon,**
- **"My army you shall lead.**
- **Stand them in a circle 'round the enemy.**
- **And I'll give you the victory."**
  
- **So Gideon gave everyone a trumpet,**
- **And a jar with a light inside.**
- **He said, "Watch me. Do what I do.**
- **And shout the battle cry!"**
  
- **They blew their trumpets and broke their jars,**
- **And held their lights up high.**
- **The Lord gave Gideon the victory,**
- **And the enemy ran away and cried.**

**What did Gideon and his army do with their trumpets?** (Blew them.) Have the children "blow their trumpets." **Gideon trusted God and God gave him the victory. When Gideon and his army blew their trumpets, what did the enemy do?** (They ran away.)



We can trust God

## THE WAY

**Teacher Tip:** Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

### **CRAFT: GIDEON'S TORCH**

**Purpose:** To remind the children of the story of Gideon going to battle.

**Supplies:** Small paper plate, paper streamers (red, orange, and yellow), stapler and staples, labels or white paper, tape, crayons or markers

**Prepare:** Cut eight 5-inch red, orange, or yellow paper streamers. Bunch four streamers together and staple them at one end to make flames. Make two bunches. On a label or slip of paper, print:

**Gideon Goes to Battle**  
**Judges 7:17-21**

**Options:** Use a paper snow cone cup or small cone-shaped drinking cup instead of a plate. Use bunches of tissue paper instead of streamers.

#### **Directions:**

1. Color the plate.
2. Attach "**Gideon Goes to Battle**" **Judges 7:17-21** label to plate.
3. Roll paper plate into cone shape (colored side out) and secure with tape to make a torch shape.
4. Tape two sets of flames to the inside edges of the torch.

#### **Craft Discussion:**

- **What did Gideon tell his army to do?** (Blow their trumpets.)
- **The trumpets made a loud noise. What else did the army do to make noise?** (They shouted and smashed their jars.)
- **Then the army held up the lights that had been inside their jars. The lights were called torches. Hold up your torches, just like Gideon and his army.** Children hold up torches.
- **What did the enemy do when they heard the loud noise and saw the torches?** (They ran away.)
- **God had a plan to help Gideon win the battle and Gideon trusted God's plan.**

# THE WAY *continued...*

## **GAME: LET'S BLOW OUR TRUMPETS!**

**Purpose:** Children will act out the story of Gideon going to battle.

**Supplies:** "Gideon's Torch" crafts, imaginary trumpets (closed fists in front of mouth)

**Let's pretend you are the soldiers in Gideon's army and I am Gideon.**

### **Directions:**

1. Teacher plays the part of Gideon.
2. Teacher and children hide their torches and trumpets (closed fist) behind their backs.
3. **Watch me. Do what I do!** All stand at attention watching "Gideon."
4. **Blow your trumpets!** All blow trumpets (closed fists in front of mouth).
5. **Break your jars!** All stomp on imaginary jars.
6. **Raise your torches.** All hold torches up high.
7. **Shout, "For the Lord and for Gideon!"** All shout **"For the Lord and for Gideon."**
8. **Shout "Hooray!" Watch the enemy run away!** All blow their trumpets and shout **"Hooray!"**
9. Children take turns being Gideon and leading the army through steps 2-8.

## **GAME: TRUST GOD'S PLAN**

**Purpose:** Children will show they trust God by following His plan in the Bible.

**Supplies:** Bible (bookmark Psalm 69:13, John 15:7, and Psalm 66:8), praise music

**Gideon showed he trusted God's plan. We can trust God's plan, too. He tells His plan in the Bible. Let's show we trust God's plan by doing what God tells us to do.**

### **Directions:**

1. As you read each Bible verse, turn to that page in your Bible to show the children the words you are reading come from Bible.
2. Turn to Psalm 69:13. **"I pray to You, Lord," Psalm 69:13.**
3. **God's plan is for us to pray to Him.** Have the children bow their heads. **Dear God, thank You that we can trust You. Amen.**
4. Turn to John 15:7. **"Love each other," John 15:7.**
5. **God's plan is for us is to love each other. Let's hug to show we love each other!** Teacher and children gather together for a group hug.
6. Turn to Psalm 66:8. **"Praise our God," Psalm 66:8.**
7. **God's plan is for us to praise Him. Praise God with your trumpets!** Children blow imaginary trumpets (closed fists in front of mouth).
8. **Let's praise Him with our voices.** Lead the children in marching around the room, blowing their trumpets, and singing while you play praise music.



# THE WAY *continued...*

## **SNACK: TRUMPET TIME**

**Purpose:** Children enjoy a horn-shaped snack to remind them of the trumpets Gideon's army used in battle.

**Snack Suggestion:** Horn or tube-shaped snack (For example: Bugles brand snacks)

### **Directions:**

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.  
**God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.**  
**Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.**
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
  - **God gave Gideon a plan to win the battle. Did Gideon trust God's plan? (Yes.) Did Gideon and his army win the battle? (Yes.)**
  - **Let's pretend our snacks are trumpets. Let's blow our trumpets like Gideon's army did!**  
Blow into horn-shaped snack.
  - **God has a plan for you, too. Where can you find God's plan? (In the Bible.)**
  - **When you follow God's words in the Bible, you are trusting God's plan!**
  - **Will you trust God's plan? If so, blow your trumpet! Blow into horn-shaped snack.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## **FINAL FIVE MINUTES**

### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

Gather children in a circle sitting or standing and practice the words and motions.

<b>"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."</b>	(I) Point to self. Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body.
<b>Philippians 4:13</b>	(Him) Point to heaven. (gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body. Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner. Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.

### **PRAY**

**Let's pray together.** Say a closing prayer with the children.

### **PLAY**

Allow children to play with selected toys or centers or choose a book to read to them.

### **DISMISSAL**

Have children take home their coloring page, craft, and a copy of the Ponder, Pray & Play for 2-3's.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## GOT TIME?

### SAY & DO: JUDGES 7:17-21

**Purpose:** This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the Bible Story details.

**Supplies:** None

**Directions:** With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **One day, the Lord told Gideon,** (Point to heaven.)
- **“My army you shall lead.** (Salute, as a soldier.)
- **Stand them in a circle ‘round the enemy.** (Stand up straight, as a soldier.)
- **And I’ll give you the victory.”** (Grasp and shake own hands high in victory.)
  
- **So Gideon gave everyone a trumpet,** (Raise imaginary trumpet in right hand.)
- **And a jar with a light inside.** (Hold imaginary jar in left hand.)
- **He said, “Watch me. Do what I do.** (Point to self.)
- **And shout the battle cry!”** (Cup hands around mouth, as if shouting.)
  
- **They blew their trumpets and broke their jars,** (Blow imaginary trumpet.)
- **And held their lights up high.** (Raise left fist high, as a torch.)
- **The Lord gave Gideon the victory,** (Grasp and shake own hands high in victory.)
- **And the enemy ran away and cried.** (Cover face, as if weeping.)



### BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.” Philipians 4:13

### GAME: JESUS GIVES ME STRENGTH!

**Purpose:** Children will realize Jesus gives them strength.

**Supplies:** Soft ball for rolling

**Our Bible Memory Verse tells us, “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.” Jesus is the one who gives us strength.**

**Directions:**

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Teacher rolls the ball to a child.
3. Child holds the ball and says, **“I can do everything through Jesus.”**
4. **Optional:** Child names an activity that is hard for him or her to do. For example: tying a shoe, riding a bike, sharing toys, counting, reading, or swimming.
5. Together, everyone says to the child with the ball, **“Jesus gives name of child strength!”**
6. Child rolls the ball to another child.
7. Continue playing until each child has a turn.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **GAME: MEMORY VERSE ECHO**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize and review the Unit 7 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** None

Let's practice our Bible Memory Verse, "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

### **Directions:**

1. Have the children stand in a circle.
2. Divide your class into two groups: the loud echo and the whisper echo.
3. Have them all crouch down until it is their turn to echo the verse.
4. Say the verse. Have the loud group stand and echo your words and then the whisper group.
5. Repeat a few times.
6. If you have time, reassign which group does which kind of echo and play again.
7. Optional: Add some variety to the echo. Do it faster each time or slower or have the children jump up and down, clap, or spin in a circle when it is their turn to echo.



## **STORY TIME**

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about trusting God's plan.

### **PONDER, PRAY & PLAY**

Unit 7, Lesson 34: Gideon Goes to Battle

**PONDER!** Gideon trusted God's plan for he and his army (Judges 7:17-21). What did Gideon do to win the battle? (Blew their trumpets, broke the jars in their hands, held up their torches, and shouted "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!").

**PRAY!** Pray this prayer each day this week: "Lord, thank You for having a plan for me. Help me to always trust Your plan. Amen."

**PLAY!** Get the whole family to act out the story of Gideon going to battle. Use your "Gideon's Torch" craft or flashlights for your torches and kazoos or paper tubes for your trumpets. Take turns playing Gideon who gives the commands, the army who blows their trumpets and raises their torches, and the enemy who runs away and cries.

#### **BIBLE MEMORY VERSE**

**"I can do  
everything**

**through Him  
who gives me**

**strength."**

**Philippians 4:13**

(I) Point to self.

Right fist, thumb pointed up, slides down the thumb of the left fist, thumb pointed up. The right hand then opens up and sweeps away from the body.

(Him) Point to heaven.

(gives) With the thumb touching the fingers, the hand moves in a forward motion away from the body.

Both closed fists are thrust forward in a forceful manner.

Hold hands open, as if holding a Bible.