



Blow Our Trumpets

Gideon Goes to Battle
Judges 7:17-21

Pops went through the box of old things he had pulled from the attic. Slowly he pulled out some photographs, a game, and a few old t-shirts. Then, buried at the bottom, he found what he was looking for. Just as he lifted his special treasure from the box, Delbert and Lello walked into the barn.

"Baa. What's that Pops?" Lello asked.

Pops smiled at his two friends and showed them what he had found. "This is my old trumpet. I played it in the marching band. That was many, many years ago."

Delbert looked the trumpet over carefully and asked, "What does it do?"

"You can play it and make music," Pops said, lifting the instrument to his mouth. He blew into the trumpet and out came music.

"Baa. That's nice. I bet it can be loud," Lello said.

"Yes," Pops agreed. "Did you two know there is a story in the Bible about a trumpet?"

"Haw! Really?" Delbert asked.

Pops set the trumpet down and picked up his Bible from the workbench. Flipping through the pages, he found the story and said, "In this story, God was watching over a man named Gideon. God gave Gideon a plan to win an important battle."

"Haw! Did God tell him to use swords?" Delbert asked.

"Nope," Pop smiled.

"Cannon balls?" Delbert asked.

"Nope," Pops said again.

"Bows and arrows?" Delbert asked.

"Nope," Pops answered.

"Squirt guns?" Delbert asked.

Pops chuckled. "No, Delbert. God had a different plan."

Lello looked confused. "Pops, I thought this story was about a trumpet."

"And, so it is Lello," Pops began again. "God told Gideon to give each person a trumpet and a jar with a light inside."

Delbert wondered how anyone could win a battle with trumpets and jars. "What else did he give them?"

Nothing else! God told Gideon to get in a circle around the enemy. When Gideon gave the signal, his army would blow their trumpets, break their jars, and shine their lights," Pops said.

"Oh! I bet that was very noisy! Loud noises scare me," Lello said, with a slight shudder.

"Yes, Lello, it was very loud. The enemy was so scared they ran away and never came back," Pops finished.

Delbert still wasn't sure. "Trumpets and jars sound like a strange battle plan to me."

"That may be true, but it was God's perfect plan. Gideon and his army won the battle." Pops explained patiently.

"And, they learned to follow God's plan, no matter what," Lello added.

"You're right, Lello! Pops, can we play your trumpet?" Delbert asked excitedly.

Pops agreed to let them give it a try. Delbert and Lello made lots of funny blowing noises with the trumpet before handing it back to Pops. Then, he carefully lifted the trumpet to his lips, cleared his throat, and played them a little song. And as Pops played, Delbert and Lello marched around and clapped wildly to the music.