



Worship Illustration: Storybook
King City Chronicles
Kings & Kingdoms Part 2: Judges through Esther
Unit 7, Lesson 34

Gideon Defeats the Midianites

Judges 6:12-17, 36-40; 7:1-8; 17-21

**"It's here! It's here!" Kasey threw the freshly printed newspaper down on Scoop's desk.
"Scoop, Scoop, Scoop! Look! Look what I've got!"**

Scoop glanced at the paper and then up at Kasey, "A newspaper! That's amazing!"

"Not just any newspaper!" she said. "Read what it says! Read it out loud!"

Scoop looked back at the newspaper and read, "The King City Herald."

"Stop teasing! You know what I mean. Read the headline and the name out loud!"

Scoop picked up the paper and read, "'Fantastic Fire Has Fabulous Finish' by Kasey Carter."

"That's right! By Kasey Carter, journalist!" she proudly emphasized. "I can hardly believe it, my name in print! This is the best day of my life. You should have seen that fire, Scoop. It was a regular three-alarm blaze! But just at the right moment, this superhero showed up and God sent a storm to put out that fire. You should've been there, Scoop."

"I was," Scoop mumbled, "I mean...I was there in spirit..." Just then, they both heard cries coming from just outside the open window.

"Help! Somebody! Please anybody, help!" a little boy called out from the street below.

Kasey leaned out the second floor window. "I'll help you. What's wrong?"

A little boy looked up at her. "My name is Junior and my Doggie is missing! Waahh!"

"Hot dog!" Kasey squealed. "Another big story! Can you describe the victim?"

**Junior shrugged and wiped his eyes with the back of his shirt. "He looks like...a dog."
Kasey scribbled on her notepad. "Can you be more specific?" she asked.**

"He's hairy, he has four legs, and a wet nose," Junior sniffed.

"Now we're getting somewhere!" Kasey exclaimed. "When did you last see him?"

"Right before I lost him," Junior said as he burst into a fresh batch of tears.

"You're not going to make this easy, are you?" Kasey sighed.

"Never fear, Scripture Guy is here!" came a voice from above. "I'll save your dog!" Scripture Guy landed on the roof of a nearby apartment building, scooped up a fluffy brown and black puppy, and floated down to gently place the puppy in Junior's arms. The puppy yipped happily and licked the little boy's cheek.

Junior hugged his dog and smiled. "Thanks, Scripture Guy! You're the best!"

"It's all in a day's work," Scripture Guy assured in his deep, booming voice.

"Wow! That was swell, Scripture Guy!" said Kasey. "You're a real superhero!"

"I never claimed to be super. I'm just a servant God chooses to use, kind of like Gideon," Scripture Guy humbly replied.

"Gideon? Who's Gideon?" Junior asked.

"Why, he was just a simple fellow God used to save His people, the Israelites. Here, let me get the Bible out and show you, right now!" Scripture Guy removed a Bible from a hidden pocket inside his cape and opened it to the book of Judges. Then, he began to read, "The angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!'"

"See that?" Kasey interrupted. "Gideon was mighty!"

Scripture Guy shook his head. "Gideon didn't think so. He asked for a sign that God was with him. He asked God to make dew soak a wool fleece while the ground around it stayed dry. After seeing God do that and another sign, Gideon finally believed God's promise to use him to save Israel from the Midianites."

"Midnight? Isn't that kind of late for a battle?" Junior asked, trying to calm his squirming puppy at the same time.

"Not midnight! Midianites," Scripture Guy corrected. "They were enemies from the land of Midian."

"Well, anyway, I'm sure the Israelites could win easily," Kasey said with a shrug. "Didn't they have over 30,000 soldiers?"

"God knew people might say that," Scoop replied and read from the Bible again. "The Lord said to Gideon, 'You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against Me that her own strength has saved her...'" Scoop looked up. "So God told Gideon if any man is afraid, send him home."

"Home! Are you kidding?" Junior shouted, "I bet half of them must have been scared!"

"Actually, it was two-thirds of them. 22,000 men went home," Scripture Guy explained.

"But, that still left Israel with 10,000 men!" Kasey noted.

"You're right," Scripture Guy agreed. "But God wanted an even smaller army, so He made Gideon choose only the men who drank water from the river, not by kneeling but by scooping it into their hands and lapping it up."

Junior looked down at his furry pet who was sniffing a nearby plant. "Like Doggie?"

Scripture Guy smiled, "Exactly!"

"And that's who God chose?" Kasey asked.

"All 300 of them," Scripture Guy agreed.

"300?" Kasey squealed. "You can't defeat a whole army with just 300 men!"

"No, but God can!" Scripture Guy explained. "God told Gideon to give each man a trumpet and a jar with a torch inside it. When they all blew the trumpets, broke the jars, and raised the torches, the Midianite army ran away in fear."

Junior grinned. "I bet everyone gave God the credit!"

Scripture Guy nodded. "So, you see Ms. Kasey Carter, like Gideon, I know it is God who gives me the victory!" Suddenly, police sirens echoed through the air. "Oh my, a distress signal." He closed his eyes and put a finger into the air. "If my senses are sharp, there's a bank robbery going on downtown at this very moment," he explained, leaping into the air. "Scripture Guy to the rescue! I give everything to honor my King!"

Junior gazed up after him and then took off running toward downtown with his puppy racing along beside him. "Wait for me, Scripture Guy! You're my hero!"

"Wow, what a godly hero!" Kasey thought as she walked back into the Herald's lobby.

The receptionist held up the phone receiver. "Will you take this call, Miss? It's for Scoop and I can't locate him."

Kasey took the handset. "Hello? What's that? A big accident? Way uptown? Okay, thank you. I'll give Scoop the message." She hung up the phone and looked around. "Now what do I do?" she thought. "I should cover that bank robbery downtown, but those people uptown need help, too." She stepped outside the door and into a phone booth. She thought, "Now I see what Scripture Guy was saying! If this works out, everyone will know it was God who gave us the victory." Moments later, she emerged wearing a bright pink bodysuit with a red cape. The costume had the initials "KC" on the chest. "This is a job for Kingdom Crusader! I give everything to honor my King!" she announced as she flew away to find the accident.