

GIDEON – ABILITY VS AVAILABILITY

The older generation has a responsibility to share with the younger generation the good things that God has done.

The younger generation has a responsibility to receive those things.

The Israelites began to follow the gods of other people around them and they began to follow Baal.

The Lord's anger burned against the Israelites and he gave them over to the Midianites.

The Lord's hand was against the Israelites, yet he raised up judges to deliver them.

They did not listen to the judges and conditions deteriorated until they finally cried out to the Lord.

The Israelites were impoverished, discouraged, overwhelmed, afraid and depressed.

God sent a prophet to instruct them.

God also visited Gideon via an angel to commission him to deliver Israel.

1. All God wants is all you have.

God does not ask anyone for anything they do not have.

You don't become a Christian by asking God to be a part of your life.

You become a Christian by asking God to be the Lord of your life.

2. God wants to eliminate the competition in our lives.

Actually, we have to eliminate the competition in our lives, anything that completes for God's place in our lives.

In other words, tear down any idols in your life.

We have to be willing to make hard decisions to make God first priority in our lives.

Some of these decisions will be counter-cultural.

We need to receive a compelling vision from the Lord that makes it easier to say no to the competition.

It make it easier to say “no” to something if we know what we are saying “yes” to.

3. God is not looking at your ability, he is look at your availability.

Gideon started out with 32,000 men to fight against an enemy of 135,000.

God said Gideon had too many men and sent 22,000 home, with 10,000 remaining.

God said that was still too many men and reduced it down to 300 men.

God loves us regardless of our abilities.

Nothing is impossible with God.

Extraordinary victories require great faith, God encouraged Gideon.

If you feel weak, go in whatever strength you do have.

SCRIPTURE LIST

Judges 2:10-15

Judges 6:1-27

Matthew 22:37

Proverbs 29:18

Judges 7

Zechariah 4:6