

# BIBLE BOWL -2016

Lesson #9 –Sword of Gideon  
Scripture Reading: Judges 6:1-6

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## Introduction:

1. There was trouble in Israel once again due to unfaithfulness to the Lord -6:1-10 (summarize)
2. Gideon accomplished greatness after placing his faith in God
3. In this lesson we will examine three ways the Lord motivated him to success.

## **I. HE WAS STRONGER THAN HE REALIZED -6:11-35**

### **A. THE ANGEL OF THE LORD APPEARS TO HIM**

1. Gideon is hiding from the Midianites
2. The Angel of the Lord says to him, “the Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!” –vs. 12
3. He claims he is the weakest in all Israel –vs. 15
4. Gideon requests a sign from the Angel of the Lord and receives –vs. 17-23

### **B. HE PERFORMED A MIGHTY TASK**

1. The Lord instructs Gideon to tear down the altar of Baal and the wooden image –6:25-27
  - a. The wooden image was Ashtoreth
  - b. This image was to be used as fuel for the fire for the sacrifice to God
2. The destruction is discovered –6:28-32
  - a. The men of the city realize that Gideon had destroyed the images of Baal and Ashtoreth
  - b. Their desire is to kill him
  - c. His father saves him from death with reasoning, “Let Baal plead...” -6:32

## **II. GOD WAS WITH HIM**

### **A. THE SIGN OF THE FLEECE -6:36-40**

1. Gideon desired to know that God was with him
2. He request two signs from God
  - a. The fleece to be drenched in dew while the ground was dry -6:37-38
  - b. The fleece to be dry while the ground was wet with dew -6:39-40

### **B. GIDEON’S VALIANT THREE HUNDRED MEN -7:1-8**

1. Let the fearful return to their homes -7:1-3
  - a. The glory would go to God, not to man
  - b. There were twenty-two thousand returned and ten-thousand remained –vs. 3
2. Drinking habits -7:4-8
  - a. God had them go down to the water; afterward a decision would be made.
  - b. The Lord had said those who lap like a dog were dismissed; three-hundred remained.
  - c. God would save Israel by the three-hundred -7:7

## **III. VICTORY WAS HIS THROUGH THE LORD**

### **A. GOD GAVE HIM ENCOURAGEMENT TO SUCCEED**

1. He went down into the camp with Purah his servant
2. He overheard a dream of one of the soldiers and was strengthened -7:13-14

### **B. GOD GAVE HIM THE VICTORY**

1. The trumpets, lanterns, and torches -7:15-18
2. They attack; every sword turns against his companion –7:19-23
3. The men of Ephraim attacked the Midianites and captured Oreb and Zeeb -7:24-25

Conclusion:

1. The Israelites were delivered because of their faith and obedience in God.
2. The Israelites reverted back into sin when all was a peace once again -8:33-35
3. The challenge for us is to remain faithful to God in times of peace.