

Gideon | Lesson Plan

How did Gideon's life demonstrate the importance of faith and trust?

Students will understand that faith and trust are vital to success in life. Through the Biblical account of Gideon, students will recognize that there are always good reasons for being chosen, even though we may not always feel qualified.

Learning Objectives:

- Describe the biblical account of Gideon, a faithful judge of Israel.
- Describe the importance of being confident in God-given abilities.
- Compare feelings and life experiences to those of Gideon.
- Recognize the importance of trusting yourself, trusting others, and trusting God.

Key Vocabulary:

- **Israelites:** Hebrew people who are descendants of any of the sons of Jacob.
- **Generation:** A group of people born and living at the same time.
- **Idol:** Anything that takes the place of God.
- **Midianites:** The descendants of Midian, a son of Abraham who lived on the northwest Arabian peninsula, on the border of modern-day Jordan and Saudi Arabia.
- **Military:** A group of people, often including soldiers, sailors, and pilots, who are trained to defend their country from enemies to keep it safe.

Educational Standards: CCRA.L.1, CCRA.L.2, CCRA.L.4, CCRA.W.4, CCRA.R.7, CCRA.SL.1, CCRA.SL.2, CCRA.SL.4, CCRA.W.2

Academic Subject Areas: Biography, Bible, Judeo-Christian Values

What You'll Need

- Video: *Gideon: A Faithful Judge of Israel* (Watch [Here](#))
- Worksheet: *Gideon: A Faithful Judge of Israel* (Click [Here](#))

Lesson Plan (45 minutes)

Warm-Up: (20 minutes)

1. Begin by discussing the concepts of faith and trust, and ask students to differentiate the two. (Explain that trust is usually based on evidence from past experiences, and faith usually requires belief without proof.)
2. Explain that both concepts involve believing in oneself, God, and others.
3. Have the class form a single-file line, with each student placing their hands on the shoulders of the person in front of them. Ask students to close their eyes and lead the group on a slow, guided walk. Encourage students to focus on trusting you, the



person in front of them, and the group. Before class, make sure the planned path is safe and clear. (This can also be done in pairs instead of the whole class.)

4. Once the students return to their seats, reiterate the importance of faith and trust.
5. Communicate that the upcoming video will feature the Biblical story of Gideon and reveal ways he was a faithful judge.
6. Display the worksheet and distribute individual copies to students.
7. Read over the worksheet as a class so students know what to listen for during the video. Invite students to listen and watch for ways Gideon's life demonstrated faith and trust.

Watch and Complete: (15 minutes)

1. Watch the video.
2. Pause throughout the video to allow students to complete answers on the worksheet. Assist as needed.

Wrap-Up: (10 minutes)

1. Allow students several minutes to complete the worksheet independently.
2. Invite volunteers to share their responses to Question 9. Through reflection on their experiences, students can identify times when they faced uncertainty and relied on their faith in God. Encourage students to recognize that God is always present, guiding and supporting them regardless of their obstacles.
3. Collect the worksheet as a formative assessment or participation grade.
4. Wrap up the lesson by reminding students of the story of Gideon, which is a powerful reminder of the importance of faith and trust in God's plan. Just as Gideon faced doubts and challenges, students may also encounter moments where they feel inadequate or unqualified. However, through Gideon's journey, they learn that God often chooses the unlikely and unexpected to accomplish His purposes.
5. Prompt students to consider how they can apply the lessons from Gideon's story in their own lives. Encourage them to trust in God's plan, even when it may seem unclear, and to have faith that He will provide the strength and guidance needed to overcome challenges.

Don't have time for the full lesson? Quick Activity (15-20 minutes)

Distribute the worksheet and allow students to complete it while they follow along with the video.