

Gideon: The Unlikely Hero Bargains with God *Judges 6:36-40*

Homework

Getting Started

1. Why do you think people in tight spots resort to bargaining with God?
2. What does bargaining with God imply about the person? Imply about God?

Going Deeper - Read Judges 6:36-40

1. What stands out to you about Gideon's last-minute reservations in going forward with what God called him to do?
2. Have you ever had last minute fears that paralyzed you from doing something difficult? Explain.
3. Gideon began his bargain with God at the threshing floor (vs. 36) where the Lord originally met Gideon and called him. What seems odd to you about this picture?
4. Gideon's opening word is "if." What does that tell you about Gideon's state of mind?
5. When had God previously promised to use Gideon to defeat Israel's enemies?
6. When God promises us something, do we still have the freedom to question God's Word like Gideon did? Is that healthy or unhealthy?
7. Discuss the four lessons of the fleece given by Pastor Jerry
 - a. First, Gideon was not ignorant of God's will when he set out his fleece.
 - b. Second, Gideon's fleece setting was an evidence of doubt not faith.
 - c. Third, Gideon attempted to dictate to God by fleece setting.
 - d. Fourth, Gideon's fleece did not solve the problem.

Growing Stronger

Discuss the five principles for finding God's will:

1. First, God is your Guide. **John 16:13; John 10:10**

2. Second, God guides you and keep you from wrong directions through the principles and precepts of His Word.
 - a. Direct commands that are specific in their application - **Ephesians 4:32; Exodus 20**

 - b. General principles that have universal application - **Romans 12:10; Galatians 3:17; Matthew 22:37-38**

3. Third, God confirms His guidance through inner peace. **Colossians 3:15**

4. Fourth, God steers you using the desires He places in you. **Psalms 37:4; Philippians 2:13**

5. Fifth, God works through the counsel of other godly believers to confirm His will. **Proverbs 15:22; Acts 15**

Getting Together

Pray audibly for one another's needs realizing that this is part of being in fellowship with God and one another.