

Rise Up: Bringing Leaders to Life

Week 2: Sunday, March 19 – Gideon

The Confident Leader

Do you see yourself the way that God sees you?

Judges 6:1-16 - 1 The Israelites did evil in the Lord's sight. So the Lord handed them over to the Midianites for seven years. 2 The Midianites were so cruel that the Israelites made hiding places for themselves in the mountains, caves, and strongholds. 3 Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, marauders from Midian, Amalek, and the people of the east would attack Israel, 4 camping in the land and destroying crops as far away as Gaza. They left the Israelites with nothing to eat, taking all the sheep, goats, cattle, and donkeys. 5 These enemy hordes, coming with their livestock and tents, were as thick as locusts; they arrived on droves of camels too numerous to count. And they stayed until the land was stripped bare. 6 So Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites. Then the Israelites cried out to the Lord for help.

11 Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. 12 The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, **"Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!"**

Even when I feel INSIGNIFICANT, God is with me!

Gideon had earned himself the label of a "ZERO"

God gave Gideon the label of a "HERO"

13 "Sir," Gideon replied, "if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn't they say, 'The Lord brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the Lord has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites." 14 Then the Lord turned to him and said, **"Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!"**

Even when I feel INSUFFICIENT, God is with me!

15 "But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" 16 The Lord said to him, **"I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."**

Even when I feel INSECURE, God is with me!

Do you see yourself the way that God sees you?

1 John 3:1 - See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are!

The Confident Leader

What label is holding you back?