



# **God Can Do Powerful Things**

Backyard Bible Club  
"Kid's Club"  
Guide



# Backyard Bible Club Guide 1

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## Getting Started

Servant Life has developed this outline specifically for Backyard Bible Clubs. **It is important to note that this is only a suggested outline and is not mandated for use. We would ask however, because there is important information in the pages preceding the actual curriculum itself, that you would please read pages 3 through 6.** If your group would be more comfortable using another Vacation Bible School Curriculum, please use what your group can easily prepare and utilize. This guide was created as a resource and an outline that presents Biblical concepts well, however it is by no means the only effective option.

It is also our goal to communicate that this kids' camp guide is meant to serve as a resource for your programming. This plan only covers the major elements of your day: Scripture and Bible story activities, Scripture memory, crafts, and recreation. Your group should be prepared to add other elements to the programming such as songs, puppets, face painting, etc. To reinforce the lessons you are teaching in the minds of the children, it will prove helpful to use physical reminders of what has been taught each day. For instance, one group taught a lesson about how people are God's treasure and after the lesson gave out plastic beads and plastic crowns. Try to find ways like these object lessons that will help the kids understand the concepts on their level.

The ultimate purpose of your group's experience is twofold: first for your students to have the privilege of teaching the Word and leading children to Christ. Second, to learn how to plan and minister both as a group and as individuals. It is important that they take initiative and ownership in the planning time as well as during ministry week.

Finally, we encourage you to be flexible, relax, and have fun. While it is important to plan, you should also plan to be flexible. Community ministry work is rarely an exact science, and the most

important thing that you can do during the week is simply share Christ's love to the children through your time, energy, smiles and prayers. We trust that God will use this experience in your life and the lives of the children to show his glory and bring people to Himself.

### **Pointers and Discussion**

**Clean Up** – Don't be afraid to utilize the children to clean up. It helps the children feel important and helps your group with their clean up tasks. Clean up is very important because it shows respect to the community.

**Free Play in Small Groups** – One of the most meaningful times at a children's ministry mission site is when your students can do a low-key activity with just a few children and really invest in them. Have students pair up, and take a small group of 3-5 children to do an activity. Be mindful to keep the groups in a central location. Suggested activities for this time include playing with bubbles, sidewalk chalk, face paint, coloring pictures or even playing on a playground. Each day have your students take the same children so they can really get to know them.

**Large Group Recreation** - Recreation is a key factor in any Children's Program. Large group recreation can draw children out from their homes very quickly. Kick ball, tag games and parachute games are great to kick off the day. It works well to have an extended and active recreation time directly before asking the children to do a more quiet activity such as crafts or Bible story. It is also recommended on the last day to do some type of water games as a treat that afternoon. Make sure to let the children know to be prepared to get wet, and check with the location contact to make sure it is permissible. Also, have your students practice leading a game before arriving on site...knowing how to play a game and knowing how to lead a game are very different. Finally, remember the cardinal rule of recreation: Kill a game before it peaks, not after...stop the game before the children are tired of it. If they are still having fun with it, they will want to play it again tomorrow!

**Schedule** – The schedules provided are just suggestions. No plan will work perfectly for your situation, but there are some general guidelines you can follow:

1. Remember that attention spans are short. It is better to do an activity several times throughout the day in short increments rather than trying to do activities that utilize large blocks of time.
2. Try to avoid too many high energy or low energy activities at a time. It is good to alternate between the two.
3. Ages will vary widely at many locations, and some activities will not be suitable for all ages. Plan to have students available when they are not leading an activity to hang out with the older kids or play with the younger kids. Be ready to adjust your original plan and schedule. Don't ever send a child home, or ignore them, because they are too old or young to participate.
4. **IMPORTANT:** Children are never required to participate in any part of the program. For instance, if they feel uncomfortable participating in Bible Story time, we don't want to force them to do so. Also, parents may hang around during the program – welcome them! We have a chance to minister to them as well!

**Songs/Puppets** – Please note that there is not a list of songs within this guide. Servant Life encourages groups to lead songs they know and are comfortable leading. Also, children love songs done by puppets. If your church does not have puppets or a puppet stage, you can easily make puppets out of construction paper and brown paper bags or long gym socks and use a sheet as a puppet stage. The children love them just the same...you can even have children make their own puppets or give them yours at the end of the week.

**Stations/Rotations** - Some groups in the past have opted to break into four different stations and have the four groups rotate about every 15 minutes. This format is suggested for larger groups as it allows you to more adequately accommodate the children's need for

attention. This format also increases the likelihood of the children receiving more one-on-one attention from you and your students. Suggested stations include:

1. Bible Story/Activity Station
2. Craft Station
3. Recreation Station
4. Activity Station (Face Painting, Bubbles, Sidewalk Chalk, etc.)

**Prompting Children to Respond to the Message** – Many times in a church setting, an ‘altar call’ is given to allow children a chance to respond to the gospel message. While we do not want to discourage children responding to the gospel, we want to give some guidelines for how this might be done. In scenarios in which children might respond to the gospel, engage children one-on-one. This helps avoid confusion and mass manipulation. What we want to avoid is an environment where there is confusion with kids going to the front to pray with someone when they still don’t really understand what’s going on. Hearing one of the lessons may be one step on their journey of understanding the message of Christ and knowing God. They may even be ready to pray to receive Christ. We ask that you would be sensitive and if they do make a ‘decision’ make sure to get plenty of contact information for them so that we can turn that over to local churches that will follow up with them. There will be contact cards in the Youth Minister packet you were given at registration. Please use these and turn in all of the cards (both blank and filled out) to your site coordinator on the last day. We are doing a disservice to the children if we lead them to Christ, but give them no means of support to help them grow.

## **God Can Do Powerful Things**

This Backyard Bible Club is titled “God Can Do Powerful Things.” The guide contains three Bible stories that show the power of God and His ability to work in miraculous ways. These are stories that children can engage with and, as a result, learn Biblical truths about God and His character. Each day includes a craft, memory verse, and discussion questions to go along with the Bible story. The purpose of this guide is to teach children the truths and stories from the Bible in simple and clear ways that they can better understand God’s love for them and who He is. The goal is to help the children see how God moved in mighty ways to impact the lives of the people in these stories and that same God can move in their lives as well.

### **Day 1: God Has Power Over Death**

**Bible Story Illustration:** Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead. (John 11:1-44)

**Memory Verse:** John 11:25 – *“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.”*

**Discussion Starter:** Ask the kids if they have ever played a video game or board game where they get to play with multiple lives. Ask for examples such as in Mario, which gives you three lives to complete the level. The saying goes that cats have nine lives, we on the other hand only have one. Transition to the story of Lazarus by saying that God did a wonderful miracle by bringing a man named Lazarus back to life after he died.

## The Story of Lazarus

One day Jesus got a message that Lazarus, the brother of his good friends Mary and Martha, was dying. Jesus decided not to go to Lazarus right away and stayed where he was for two more days because he believed that God was in control and had a plan. He knew that God was going to use the death of Lazarus to help people understand more about God's love and power.

Jesus explained to His disciples that they were going to make a trip to the town of Bethany in Judea. But they didn't want Jesus to go near Judea because everyone there were threatening to kill Him. Jesus told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples thought that Jesus meant Lazarus was just sick and needed to rest, so Jesus said to them more plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Four days later, Jesus arrived in Bethany, which is a city near Jerusalem. When Martha and Mary heard Jesus was there, Martha went to meet him on the road and Mary stayed behind. When Martha saw Jesus, she was angry with Him because she knew that if Jesus had gotten there sooner He could have saved her brother from dying. Jesus told Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live even though they die." Martha then went to go get her sister Mary. Mary quickly got up and went to Jesus and started crying and said, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw Mary in so much pain, He wept. (Maybe explain the word "wept" and what that means.)

Then Jesus went over to the tomb where Lazarus was buried. A tomb is a cave with a big stone laying against it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of Lazarus said, "Lord, by this time it will smell because he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, " Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" Jesus then looked up and said, "Father, thank you that you have heard me. I know that you always hear me, but I said this so that the people standing around me might believe that you have sent me." And when he had said this He yelled, "Lazarus, come out!" Lazarus, even though he was dead in the grave, came back to life and walked out. He was still wrapped in grave clothes so Jesus said, "Unbind him and let him go." All the people that were there that day saw what Jesus had done and were amazed and many knew He was the Son of God.

**Bible Story Discussion (you may want to put these on poster board):**

- 1) Why didn't Jesus hurry to get to Lazarus before he died?
- 2) Who were Lazarus' sisters?
- 3) Why was Martha angry with Jesus when she first saw him?
- 4) Why did Jesus weep?
- 5) What happened after the stone was removed from the grave opening?

## **Conclusion:**

End Result: God can do amazing things like raise people from the dead.

Today's Attitude: We no longer have to fear death because of Jesus.

God Factor: God is in total control and can do powerful things in our lives.

Gospel Connection: God not only had the power to raise Lazarus from the dead, but he also raised Jesus from the dead. The death of Jesus on the cross was not because of Jesus' sin—he didn't have any!—but because of our sin. If we acknowledge our sin, turn away from it, and trust in Jesus, we can begin to have a relationship with God. This means that even when we die physically, we will live on with God forever. Like Lazarus and like Jesus, when God is in control, death has no power over us.

**Memory Verses (Cut out of card stock)**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> | <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> |
| <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> | <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> |
| <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> | <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> |
| <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> | <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> |
| <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> | <p>I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.<br/>John 11:25</p> |

## **Craft/Activity: Lazarus Coloring Sheet and TP Unwrap Game**

### **Lazarus Coloring Sheet**

#### Supplies:

- \* coloring sheet (attached)
- \* markers/crayons

#### Instructions:

1) Help the children remember the story of Lazarus by pointing things out in the picture and asking them questions about the story.

### **Lazarus TP Unwrap Game**

#### Supplies:

- \* 2 rolls of toilet paper (1 per team)
- \* Discussion Questions

#### Instructions:

- 1) Divide the group of children into 2 teams (if large group, then make more teams).
- 2) Designate one child to be 'Lazarus' in each team.
- 3) Have the rest of the children on the team wrap 'Lazarus' in toilet paper to represent grave clothes.
- 4) After 'Lazarus' is wrapped, have the children sit down and allow the leader to ask questions about the Bible Story (see discussion questions). If they answer the questions correctly, a child may unwrap a small portion of Lazarus.
  - If they do not answer correctly then 'Lazarus' stays wrapped. Continue with the rest of the questions. The teams can compete against each other to see which team gets 'Lazarus' unwrapped first by answering all the questions

correctly. Encourage the children to work together to remember the Bible story and answer the questions. Feel free to ask more questions and add explanations using the Scripture. Repetition helps the children remember the Bible story.



“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.”

John 11:25

## **Day 2: Trusting in God to do a Mighty Work**

**Bible Story Illustration:** The Walls of Jericho (Joshua 6:1-20)

**Memory Verse:** Joshua 24:24 – *“We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey Him.”*

**Discussion Starter:** Ask the children about things they think are really loud. What are things we shout and yell for? Sporting events, concerts, etc. Ask the kids if they think they could yell loud enough to knock over a piece of paper? a styrofoam cup? a book? a wall? a whole house? Start to transition to the story of the walls of Jericho where God uses the Israelites in a mighty way to take the city they were given by God.

### **The Walls of Jericho**

Once there was a city called Jericho. Jericho was very well protected and had massive walls where no one could come in and no one could go out. There was a group of people called the Israelites, and their leader was a man named Joshua. The Israelites were God’s chosen people whom He was going to take care of and protect. God was going to give the Israelites the land of Jericho.

The Israelites didn’t know how they were going to take the land that God had given them because of Jericho’s mighty walls. One day, God spoke to Joshua saying, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all the men of war, going around the city once. You shall do this for six days. Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets made of

rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day, you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the walls of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him." Now this sounds like a crazy plan to make a city's walls fall down, but Joshua had faith and believed God would be with them.

So Joshua did exactly what God told him and said to the priests, "Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the Lord." And he said to the people, "Go forward. March around the city and let the armed men pass on before the ark of the Lord."

And just as Joshua commanded the people, the seven priests with the seven trumpets of rams' horns went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the Lord following them. The ark of the covenant was a holy box where the presence of the Holy Spirit was. The Israelites were entrusted with it because God was on their side and they carried it with them all the time because they knew God was always with them.

Joshua commanded the people to remind them, "You should not shout or make your voice heard, neither should any word go out of your mouth, until the day I tell you to shout." The Israelites marched for six days just as they were told. On the seventh day, they woke up really early when the sun was coming up and marched around the city seven times. After the people marched around the city seven times, the priests blew the trumpets and Joshua said to them, "Shout for the Lord has given you the city." When the people heard the trumpets blow and Joshua say this, they shouted a

great shout and the walls of Jericho fell down. Then people of Israel went in and captured the city of Jericho!

The Israelites knew that God gave them the victory because it wasn't the loud noise that made the walls fall, it was the power of God working through them. The Israelites devoted everything in the city to God. Joshua made a promise that the walls of Jericho should never be rebuilt again. So the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land.

**Bible Story Discussion (you may want to put these on poster board):**

- 1) What protected Jericho on all sides?
- 2) How many times did the Israelites walk around the city of Jericho the first six days?
- 3) How many times did they walk around the city on the seventh day?
- 4) Who was the leader of the Israelites?
- 5) What did the people of Israel carry in front of them as they marched?
- 6) What did the priests blow? What were they made of?

## **Conclusion:**

End Result: The Israelites trusted in God that He would be with them and give them what He promised.

Today's Attitude: God has promised us an amazing life and relationship with Jesus if we would trust in Him and have faith.

God Factor: God can do amazing things in our lives and he is always with us who believe in Him.

Gospel Connection: Trusting in God was not only important for the Israelites, but it is important for us today. The Israelites could not trust in their own strength to destroy Jericho; they had to trust in God's plan. In the same way, we can't trust in our own strength or "goodness" to destroy sin; we must trust in God's plan. The Bible says that salvation—and being with God forever—is only possible if we trust in Jesus and what he did on the cross. We must have faith in him and what he did.

Memory Verses (Cut out of card stock)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |
| <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> | <p>We will serve the<br/>Lord our God. We will<br/>obey Him.<br/>Joshua 24:24</p> |

## Craft/Activity: Wax Paper Horn

### Supplies:

- \* paper towel roll/toilet paper roll (1 per child)
- \* wax paper (cut into 4 inch circles, 1 per child)
- \* rubber bands (1 per child)
- \* markers
- \* stickers (optional)

### Instructions:

- 1) Before the children arrive, cut 4 inch circles out of wax paper – make sure there is one for every paper roll.
  - 2) Give each child a paper roll, a wax paper circle, and a rubber band – help them wrap one end of the roll with the wax paper and secure it with the rubber band.
  - 3) Decorate the horn with markers, crayons and stickers.
  - 4) Hum or sing into the end of the horn without the wax paper to make noise.
- \* Using the horns, you can have the children represent the priests walking around the walls of Jericho. For a wall you can use blocks or have students line up shoulder to shoulder on bended knees. After the children walk around the wall seven times on the seventh day, knock the wall down/have the students fall down.



## **Day 3: Do Not Fear, for God is With You**

**Bible Story Illustration:** Gideon's Army (Judges 6-8)

**Memory Verse:** Isaiah 41:10a – *“So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid, for I am your God.”*

**Discussion Starter:** Start by asking the children to think about things they can't do on their own. What are some of those things? What are some things that would be scary to do if you didn't have your parents with you? Transition to the story by telling the kids about a man in the Bible named Gideon. Gideon was a man who followed and trusted in God even when it was scary because he knew he couldn't do what God asked of him on his own.

### **Gideon's Small Army**

This is a story about the Israelites. After Joshua died, the leader of Israelites, the people of Israel disobeyed God and left Him out of their lives. The nearby people, called the Midianites, conquered the Israelites and burnt Israel's crops and houses. The people of Israel ran away and had to live in caves, hidden in the mountains.

One Israelite named Gideon, had a secret place to grow wheat. He was mixing the grains when an angel of the Lord appeared to him. The angel said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.” At first, Gideon was upset, wondering how God could be with him when the Midianites were burning their food and houses. Then the Lord turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and deliver Israel from the power of Midian.” Gideon pouted and complained thinking he couldn't do what God asked of him because his family was

weak and he was so young. “But I will be with you,” the Lord said to him. “You will strike Midian down as if it were one man.”

On that same night, God told Gideon to destroy the statue his father had made to a false god named Baal. Though Gideon was afraid his countrymen would kill him, he did what God commanded and shattered the statue of Baal and made an altar to the true God.

God also wanted Gideon to lead Israel’s army against the wicked Midianites. But Gideon was afraid so he asked God to give him a special sign. He laid a fleece sheepskin on the ground and asked God to make the night dew cover the sheepskin but let the ground be dry. In the morning the ground was dry but the fleece was soaking wet! Gideon still doubted, so he laid the sheepskin down again asking God to make the ground wet and the sheepskin dry this time. The next morning, the ground was soggy but the fleece was dry! Gideon knew God was with him and started to build his army.

Gideon’s army started out at 32,000 men. God told Gideon, “You have too many people for me to hand the Midianites over to you, or else Israel might brag and think they were victorious by themselves. Announce to the people that if anyone is scared they should turn back.” So 22,000 people left, leaving Gideon’s army with 10,000 people.

Then the Lord said to Gideon, “There are still too many people. Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there.” So Gideon took his army down to the water and the Lord said, “Separate the ones who kneel down and put their face in the water to drink and those that scoop the water up with their hands to drink. Keep the ones who did not kneel to drink and the rest can go home.” Now Gideon’s army was cut down to 300 men.

Knowing Gideon was still afraid, God let him secretly overhear one Midianite soldier tell another about a strange dream he had. In the dream, a loaf of bread tumbled against a Midianite tent and destroyed it. The other guard was terrified. “This is the sword of Gideon...” he cried. When Gideon heard the dream and its meaning, he knew God was going to give him the victory.

Gideon planned a night attack. He gave each soldier a trumpet, and empty pitchers with torches inside. They surrounded the Midianite army. At Gideon’s signal, the soldiers blew their trumpets, smashed their pitchers and lit their torches. What noise and confusion! The scared Midianites got up and ran away. They didn’t even have to fight!

After this great victory, the men of Israel asked Gideon to rule over them. “I will not rule over you... the Lord shall rule over you,” Gideon replied. He knew that only God has the right to rule in people’s lives. Gideon knew he couldn’t have done any of this without the help of God and needed Him to show His amazing power.

**Bible Story Discussion (you may want to put these on poster board):**

- 1) Who did Gideon’s father build an altar to?
- 2) In what ways did God show Gideon he would be with him?
- 3) How many people were in Gideon’s army at the beginning?
- 4) How many men did he end up with?
- 5) What did the Midianites do when they saw and heard Gideon’s army?

## **Conclusion:**

End Result: God protected Gideon and did a mighty work with just a small army.

Today's Attitude: God loves me and will protect and provide for me because He is always with me.

God Factor: God is in control and therefore we do not have to fear anything because we can trust Him.

Gospel Connection: From the story of Gideon, we see God's power, care, and protection for his people. God provided for Gideon and the Israelites in their battle, and God also provides for us today. If we turn from sin and trust in Jesus, we truly belong to God, and God promises that he will always be with us and will give us his Spirit (and his presence). This promise is only true for those who trust in him.

**Memory Verses (Cut out of card stock)**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> | <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> |
| <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> | <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> |
| <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> | <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> |
| <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> | <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> |
| <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> | <p>So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be afraid for I am your God. Isaiah 41:10a</p> |

## Craft/Activity: Paper Torches and Gideon Picture Jar

### Paper Torches

#### Supplies:

- \* construction paper or brown paper lunch sacks
- \* red, yellow and orange tissue paper or construction paper (cut or torn into 4 inch strips)
- \* glue
- \* stapler

#### Instructions:

- 1) To make the torch base using the construction paper, roll the paper into a tube and staple the ends together. Squeeze one end of the paper tube to be the handle.
- 2) If using a brown paper lunch sack, crumble together the bottom and middle of the sack, leaving the top open – this is for the handle of the torch.
- 3) To make the flames, glue strips of red, yellow, and orange tissue paper to the top of the torch (on the inside of the tube/bag) with about 3 inches of paper showing.



## **Gideon Picture Jar**

### Supplies:

- \* coloring picture jar (see attached, print from website for larger picture)
- \* markers/crayons
- \* tape

### Instructions:

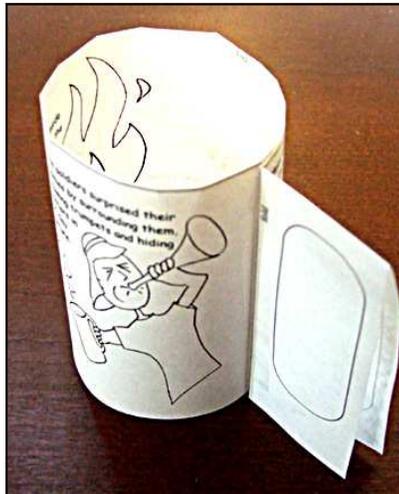
- 1) Have children color in the figures
- 2) Fold along the solid lines
- 3) Tape along lines instructed on paper to make the page into a jar shape
- 4) Use the picture jar to help reinforce the Bible story

[http://www.gospelhall.org/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_details&gid=746&Itemid=65](http://www.gospelhall.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_details&gid=746&Itemid=65)

# Gideon's Victory

This printable activity will help you and your Bible class tell and remember the story of Gideon the judge. Recall that in Judges chapter 6 and 7, God called Gideon to be a special leader to the people of Israel.

You will create a paper version of Gideon's clay jars. This version of the jar, however has the story of his great victory inscribed on its sides. Print multiple copies of page two of this document and follow the folding instructions on this page.



A finished version of Gideon's clay jar used to win a great victory for Israel.

victory was truly from God and not from Gideon's brilliance or bravery. The army of 32,000 men was given then opportunity to go home if they wished. 22,000 decided to return home. The remaining soldiers were reduced to 300 by a drinking test. Those who put their faces into the water were dismissed from service. Those 300 men who

lifted water with their hand were permitted to remain with the army.

## Explaining the pictures:

### A sign

Gideon asked God for a miraculous sign that would tell him that he would be victorious in battle. First, he placed the fleece of a lamb on the ground at night. The fleece was wet, but the ground was dry.

The next night, he placed the fleece on the ground. The fleece remained dry, but the ground was wet.

### A test

The next phase of the campaign was to reduce the number of soldiers in the army. This reduction in force was to prove that the

## The battle

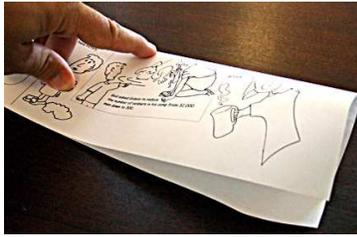
The 300 men surrounded the camp of the Midianites. Instead of attacking, they simply sounded their trumpets and broke the clay jars that contained a lighted torch. The confusion in the Midian camp brought a victory to Gideon without having to draw his sword.

## About this project

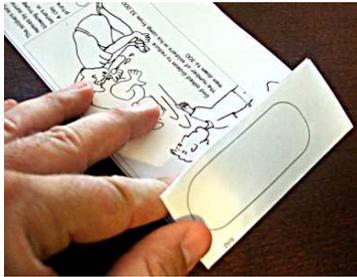
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## Folding Instructions

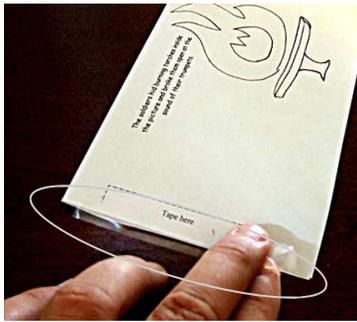
1. Fold the paper in half, length-wise.



2. Fold the handle of the jar.



3. Put a piece of tape on the end of the paper. Put the tape on the edge of the paper, leaving half of the tape exposed.



4. Curl the taped paper around to the handle and attach to the inside of the circle.



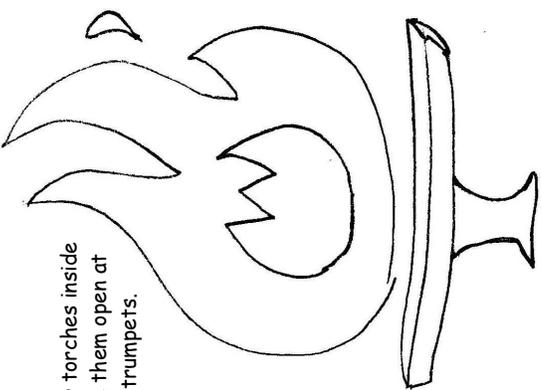
5. Put a piece of tape on the outside of the paper.





plot

Tape along this line.

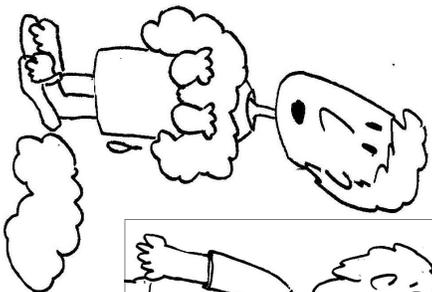


The soldiers hid burning torches inside the pitchers and broke them open at the sound of their trumpets.

fold



Gideon asked God for a sign to show him that he would have victory.



God asked Gideon to reduce the number of soldiers in his camp from 32,000 men down to 300.

The soldiers surprised their enemies by surrounding them, blowing trumpets and hiding lanterns in a clay jar.



