

Gideon, He Succeeded by Trusting God

⇒ **I. Gideon's Exploits**

⇒ **Read Judges 6:1-7**

⇒ **Read Judges 7:24-25**

- Compare **Judges 6:1-7** with **Judges 7:24-25**.
 - Notice the plight of the Israelites at the hand of the Midianites.
- **Read Judges 6:7.**
 - The Israelites were in bondage.
 - They were overrun by the Midianites in a land roughly the size of Texas, and they were hiding in caves.
 - Bear in mind, these were God's chosen people.
- Then God called a man to lead in battle.
 - We read about his victory over the Midianites in **Judges 7:15-25**.
 - Gideon is noted for the fact that he was the leader of the people who removed the Midianites from the land of the Israelites and eliminated their bondage.
 - Gideon freed a nation!

⇒ **II. Gideon's experience for the job**

○ **1. His family**

• **Read Judges 6:25**

- We find he came from an ungodly family.

○ **2. His finances.**

• **Read Judges 6:15**

- We find that he was broke.

○ **3. His failures.**

• **Read Judges 6:11**

- We find that Gideon had never done anything worthy of note in the past.

○ **4. His friends.**

• **Read Judges 7:3,5-6.**

- We find he was surrounded by faithless people.

○ **5. His fear.**

• **Read Judges 6:11, 23, 27, 36.**

- We find that Gideon in each of these verses is spoken of as being a fearful man.
- It would seem that a man with this type experience would never be a success in anything.

⇒ **III. The Explanation of Gideon's Success.**

○ **1. He was willing to trust the Lord.**

- The only logical explanation in spite of all the drawbacks and hindrances to his being a success is that he had faith.
- In **Hebrews 11:32** Gideon is called a man of faith.
- He is recounted among the heroes of faith.

- So apparently the reason that God blessed Gideon was, in spite of all the hindrances, all the drawbacks and all the reasons why he should not have been a success, he was willing to do that which the Lord would have him do.
 - He was willing to put his fear in the background and do what the Lord said.
 - He was willing to forget all of his hindrances and follow the Lord.
 - **2. He was willing to try a new method.**
 - Who would have thought that taking pitchers, lamps and trumpets and then going out and breaking the pitchers and blowing the trumpets could defeat the Midianites!
 - Yet in Judges 7 we find this was the way they were defeated.
 - **3. He was willing to be alone.**
 - We find in **Judges 7:3, 5-6** that many of the people left him; many of the people departed.
- ⇒ **Conclusion:**
- Gideon had the great requirement for being a successful Christian worker.
 - Gideon was more willing to trust the Lord than he was to trust his own judgment.