

# A Few Good Men... and Women

## Week 8



**Big Idea:** God is in the business of bringing sinful people back into a relationship with him; sometimes to accomplish this goal, he calls on surprising and unexpected people to help in the process.

**Key Verse:** Judges 6:15

“Pardon me, my lord,” Gideon replied, “but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.”

When God allowed the Midianites to rule over his people and treat them badly, he raised up Gideon to get the Israelites back on track (Judges 6–8). What kind of man was Gideon? (He was the least important person in his weak family.)

Gideon wasn’t popular, strong, or a natural leader—he didn’t even trust God at first and made God prove himself. What does this tell you about God?

Gideon raised an army of 32,000 men, but only 300 went to attack the Midianites. Why?

How would you like to be more like Gideon? Does he have any character traits that you wouldn’t want to emulate?

Go to [godtube.com](http://godtube.com) and search for Bob Smiley’s video on spanking. It’s only a minute and a half long. If you want to watch more of Bob’s comedy, look for a 14 minute and seven second video that talks about being a father and other issues. When you’re done watching the videos as a family, discuss these questions about discipline.

How is God judging the Israelites like a parent disciplining a child?

What was God’s purpose in the judges? (To bring his people back to Him, to stop them from sinning and to help them live a more abundant life.)

Did God’s judgment seem harsh or loving? Was it both?

Why did God’s children disobey so frequently? (They forgot what God had done. They followed the world’s practices, not God’s.)

What can your family learn from this chapter of The Story? Write down one thing your family will do differently after studying the judges:

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