

1. Gideon

Passage: Judges 6-7

Theme: Christians believe that God can use anyone to do great things.

Resources: memory stick with song words and music, song CD, laptop (check cable), projector (check 3: power, HDMI & HDMI-VGA link cables), extension lead, three scripts
white robe, sword, bottle of water, bowl (for water), costume (for Gideon), prop Bible, towel, fleece, print outs of photos

Person 1: Intro, Gideon, Questions

Person 2: Angel, Prayer

Person 3: Narr, Talk

Intro:

Hello [name of School], we are so pleased to be back with you again! We're the Christ Church Schools' Team, I am _____, and this is _____ [Intro team].

Can you tell me something that you are good at? [Ask]

Can you tell me something that you are not very good at? [Ask]

[Share something that you are not very good at]

Sometimes we might think we're not very big, not very strong, not very fast, not very clever or not very good-looking. But in our story from the Bible today, there's a man who thinks he's not very strong, but God still gives him an important job.

A word that you need to know before we start is Dew [PPT]. Sometimes you see this in the morning when it's cold and water appears on the ground. It's part of today's story – so do listen out for it...

Bible Drama:

[Gideon threshing wheat (mime throwing stuff over your shoulder from a spade), occasionally looking out from behind chair centre stage]

Narr: When God's people – Israel - were being attacked by an army called the Midianites, an angel appeared...

[Angel enters stage left.]

Narr: ...to a man called Gideon who was hiding in a winepress...

Angel: God is with you. Mighty warrior.

[Gideon looks round as if to say, 'Who? Me?' Gideon stands up.]

Gideon: Excuse me! But if God is with us, why is so much bad stuff happening to us?

Angel: I'm sending **you** to rescue Israel from the Midianites.

Gideon: [Shocked] Ex-cuse me... But how can **I** save Israel? **My** family is the weakest family in the weakest tribe. And I'm the weakest person in my family!

Angel: God will be with you.

[Angel exits stage left]

Narr: Later...

Gideon: Err. God? If you're going to save Israel through me, give me a sign. I'm going to place a fleece on the floor. In the morning, if there is a dew on the fleece and the ground is dry, I will know that you will save Israel through me.

[Gideon puts down fleece. Lies down. Wakes. Stretches. Touch fleece and flick water off your hand. Rings out water from the fleece.]

Gideon: Don't be angry God, but just one more thing. Tonight, if there is dew on the ground and the fleece is dry, then I will know that you have sent me...

[Gideon puts down fleece. Lies down. Wakes. Stretches. Mimes ringing out fleece, tries again, and again – no water. Touches the ground, looks at hand, dries it on the towel.]

Narr: Then Gideon went and won a great victory for God's people against the Midianites.

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Talk:

Have a look at this picture. [PPT] Who is this? [King Charles III – the new king of the United Kingdom] What words might you use to describe him? [Powerful?] Who is this? [Taylor Swift] What words might you use to describe her? [Beautiful, talented, singer, rich] Who is this? [Leah Williamson – plays football for Arsenal and England] What words might you use to describe her? [Talented, skilful]

It can be easy to look at other people and see the good things about them, but sometimes we might find it harder to think about positive things about ourselves. But in the story we heard from the Bible, God used Gideon to do great things. Gideon knew he was the weakest person in the weakest family in the weakest tribe! And yet God sent his angel to say, 'Gideon, you are going to rescue my people Israel.'

Gideon couldn't believe that God could use someone like him, so asked God to prove it with two miracles, using his fleece and the dew on the ground. And God did it. Then Gideon – the weakest person in the weakest family in the weakest tribe - went out and rescued God's people.

Christians believe that God can use anyone to do great things. Right through the Bible, God uses people who aren't powerful, or rich, good looking, or sporty to do great things. When Jesus was born, he wasn't rich or powerful. He was born in a room with animals, and was the son of a carpenter. But Christians believe he was involved in the biggest rescue mission ever to make us friends with God again.

So, when you feel you're not good enough, remember that Christians believe that God can use anyone to do great things.

Song: God's love is big

Questions:

We've got a little quiz for you now, so put your hand up if you think you know the answer:

1. Who visited Gideon to say that God was going to use him to rescue his people? [An angel]
2. What two miracles did Gideon ask for so that he would believe that this was true? [Dew on fleece not on ground and vice versa]
3. What do Christians believe that we can learn from this story? [Christians believe that God can use anyone to do great things]

Prayer:

To finish our assembly, I am going to say a short prayer for us all. If you can please close your eyes so you aren't distracted and if you want to agree with me, you can say, "Amen" at the end with me.

Dear God, thank you so much for School. Thank you that we have learnt that Christians believe you can use anyone to do great things. I pray that you would bless every child and every member of staff in this school. **Amen.**

Close:

Thank you for having us today. We will see you again next month.