

Small Group Leader Guide

Today's Suggested Schedule

The toddler curriculum provides one monthly Bible Story because we understand that toddlers learn best through repetition. The toddler curriculum provides older toddlers with the story and craft elements that some are ready to experience before they enter the twos. We hope that by sending home a simple toddler craft, you are cueing families to begin having conversations at home with their children.

Story Time

→ Show It

Craft Time

→ Gideon, a Trumpet, and a Torch

THIS MONTH
↓



Today's Bible Story

Gideon Judges 6 and 7

Bottom Line

God can help you be brave.

Memory Verse

**"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid... for the LORD your God goes with you."
Deuteronomy 31:6 NIV**

Story Time

What You Need

- ☐ Preschool Bible
- ☐ "Story Pictures" Activity Pages copied on cardstock

Note

Some children (especially the younger ones) may wander. That's okay. They're still listening and learning!

① What You Do

→ Gather children on a rug or in a specific area of the classroom to tell the story.

② What You Say

"Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. Come join me on the floor. Today's true story from the Bible (**HOLD UP THE BIBLE**) begins with a man named Gideon. He was afraid of the mean Midianite army so he, along with all the other Israelites, hid in holes in the mountain!

"The Midianites would come and destroy all the Israelites' crops, and they would do this every year for seven years. One time, Gideon was trying to hide some of the wheat so it would be safe and they would have it for food later.

"While doing so, God sent an angel to tell Gideon (**HOLD UP A PICTURE OF THE ANGEL AND GIDEON.**), 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior!' God wanted Gideon to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. (**HOLD UP A PICTURE OF GIDEON AND GOD'S ARMY.**)

"Gideon didn't think he was the right person for the job. He felt small and unimportant. But God said He would be with Gideon.

"So the Israelites took trumpets, jars, and torches and quietly walked to where the Midianites were. When they got there, they made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets and smashing their jars! (**HOLD UP A PICTURE OF GIDEON AND THE ARMY TORCHES AND TRUMPETS UP AND BROKEN JARS ON THE GROUND.**) They shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' The Midianites were afraid and ran away! God helped Gideon be brave and lead the army to defeat the Midianites. God helped Gideon be brave, and **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help you be brave!"

Craft Time

What You Need

- ☐ "Gideon, a Trumpet, and a Torch" Activity Page
- ☐ Cardstock
- ☐ Washable ink pads in a variety of colors
- ☐ Baby wipes
- ☐ Permanent marker

Notes

Depending on the size of your group, you may lead the craft two or three times.

Not every child may want to participate in craft time. That's okay. Feel free to send home the craft materials for them to complete with their mom or dad.

① What You Do

→ Gather small groups of children around you at a table for toddler craft time.

Before the Activity

1. Copy "Gideon, a Trumpet, and a Torch" on cardstock, one per child.
2. Write each child's name on their paper.

During the Activity

1. Encourage children to press their fingertips on the ink pads, then press them on their paper to fill in the different pictures.
2. Clean hands.

② What You Say

"God wanted Gideon to lead his army to defeat the Midianites. Gideon gave the army trumpets **(POINT)**. Press your fingertip in a color, then press it in the trumpet to fill it in. **(PAUSE.)** And jars **(POINT)** press your fingertip in a color, then press it in the jar to fill it in. **(PAUSE.)** And torches **(POINT)** press your fingertip in a color, then press it in the picture of the flames to fill it in. **(PAUSE.)** They walked quietly to the Midianites, blew their trumpets, smashed their jars, and shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' The Midianites were so afraid that they ran away! God helped Gideon be brave and lead the army to defeat the Midianites. God helped Gideon be brave, and **[BOTTOM LINE]** God can help you be brave!"