

Today's Suggested Schedule— October 2025, Week 3

Today's Bible Story: Gideon • *Judges 6 and 7*

I can be brave even when I'm afraid.

Key Question: Who can help you be brave?

Bottom Line: God can help me be brave.

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

Supplies NOT included in the activity bags:

Social/Table Activities before Large Group

Gideon Sensory Bin

- Yellow shredded paper

Gideon Play Doh Mat (**NOT at Walkertown due to allergies**)

- playdoh

After Large Group

Memory Verse Activity- Gideon Says

Bible Story Review- Act Like Gideon

Application Activity- Tip Toe Time

- Permanent marker

Brave Gideon

Journal and Prayer

Social/Table Activities before Large Group

1. Gideon Sensory Bin

Supplies Needed:

- Gideon sensory bin materials
- Yellow shredded paper

What to Say

Talk about the pictures using the story sequence.

- Gideon was a farmer. Do you think he was surprised when an angel visited him?
- God reduced the size of Gideon's army. Does that seem like a good idea?
- How would you separate soldiers?
- Discuss the battle strategy and outcome.
- There was peace for many years.
- What does peace mean to you?

2. Gideon Play Doh Mat (NOT AT WALKERTOWN due to allergies)

Supplies Needed:

- Playdoh

What To Say

Follow the discussion questions listed on the mat.

After Large Group

1. Memory Verse Activity- Gideon Says



What You Need:

- “Gideon Says” Activity Page

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the verse together as you do the motions.

During the Activity: Encourage children to hold the picture of Gideon up to their face and say the verse. Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Connect the Memory Verse to the Bottom Line.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Friends, come over and stand with me. Let’s say our verse together as we do the motions. Everyone ready? ‘Be strong and courageous. *(Muscle arms)* Do not be afraid . . . *(cross and uncross hands)* for the Lord your God *(flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down)* goes with you,’ *(march in place)* Deuteronomy 31:6. *(Open hands like a book.)* Great job, everyone!”

During the Activity: “Look at this picture, it’s Gideon, the man from our story! I thought it would be fun to use this to practice our verse. Watch me. *(Hold one of the papers up to your face, making sure your mouth is visible through the opening.)* ‘Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God goes with you,’ Deuteronomy 31:6. *(Give each child a picture of Gideon.)* Now let’s all hold up our pictures and say the verse together. Let’s go! ‘Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid ... for the Lord your God goes with you,’ Deuteronomy 31:6. *(Repeat as desired.)* Great job, everyone!”

After the Activity: “The Bible teaches us to be strong and courageous and not to be afraid. Gideon was afraid of the Midianites, but God was with Gideon and helped him be brave. God is with you and can help you be brave, too! **Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave!**”

Inclusive Pro-Tips

- Pair children up to do the activity together.
- Allow children to say the verse without holding the Activity Page up to their face.

2. Bible Story Review- Act Like Gideon

What You Need:

- ☐ No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Sit together on the floor with children.

During the Activity: Encourage children to act out the story with you.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Come sit with me, super friends, and let's act out our Bible Story!"

During the Activity: "Our true story begins with a man named Gideon. Gideon was afraid. When the Midianites would come, Gideon and the rest of the Israelites would hide in holes in the mountain. Let's all pretend to hide in a hole. Get really small and cover your head and your arm. *(Pause.)* Gideon was hiding from the Midianites. They were really big. Very strong. And they were mean. Make a mean face. *(Pause.)* Oh, those were mean faces. One day, God sent an angel to tell Gideon, 'The LORD is with you, mighty warrior!' Everyone does a super pose with their hands on their hips like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Great job! God wanted Gideon to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. Gideon was still afraid, but he did what God said and led God's army.

"Gideon gave the army ... *(toot a pretend horn)* trumpets. Hold your hand up to your mouth and pretend to toot your horn. *(Pause.)* They had jars. Hold your arms out like you are giving a hug. And they had torches. Make a fist with one hand and hold it up in the air. Gideon and the army quietly walked to where the Midianites were, then made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets and smashing their jars! Then they shouted: 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' Let's say that together. *(With children.)* 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' And just like that, the Midianites were so afraid that they ran away! Great job acting out our Bible Story today!"

After the Activity: "When Gideon was afraid, God helped him be brave. God can help you be brave, too!

Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave."

3. Application Activity- Tip Toe Time

What You Need:

- Party horns
- Permanent marker

Optional Inclusive Supplies:

- Noise cancelling headphones

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Write each child's name on a party horn. Give each child their party horn.

During the Activity: Encourage children to tiptoe quietly around the room and blow their horn when you say, "Make a loud noise." Repeat as desired.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "Let's pretend to be Gideon's army. I'll pretend to be Gideon and you'll be the army. I'll give you a party horn to use as a trumpet. But don't blow it yet."

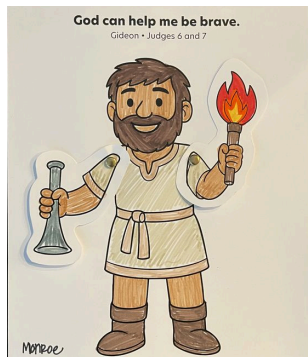
During the Activity: "Okay everyone, we're going to be really quiet and tiptoe around the room. When I say, "Make a loud noise," I want you to blow your horns really loud. Ready? Tiptoe with me. *(Pause.)* Shhhhh, be super quiet and keep tiptoeing. *(Pause.)* Make a loud noise! *(Pause.)* Wow, great job! The Midianite army was so scared that they ran away. Let's play again! *(Repeat as desired.)* That was so much fun."

After the Activity: "God was with Gideon and helped him be brave. Gideon led God's army with trumpets, jars, and torches, and told the army to follow him quietly. Gideon told the army to blow their trumpets, smash their jars, and shout 'For the LORD and for Gideon!' And just like that, the Midianites were afraid and ran away. God helped Gideon be brave! And God can help you be brave, too! **Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave!**"

Inclusive Pro-Tips

- For children with sensitivities to noise, provide them with headphones.

4. Craft- Brave Gideon



What You Need:

- “Brave Gideon” Activity Page
- “Gideon’s Torch and Trumpet” Activity Pages
- crayons
- Metal brads
- Permanent marker

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Write each child’s name on their paper.

During the Activity: Encourage children to color their pictures. Help attach Gideon’s arms on each child’s paper then ask children to use it as you review the Bible Story.

After the Activity: Connect the Bottom Line to the Bible Story.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Everyone come sit at the table and let’s make some story art to help us remember today’s true story from the Bible!”

During the Activity: “Let’s start with coloring your picture of Gideon. Look, one of his arms has a trumpet, and the other has a torch. Color those too. *(Pause.)* Your pictures look great! Now we can attach his arms to your picture. *(Secure both arms to Gideon with the brads.)* Now you can use your pictures as we talk about our story. When our story begins, Gideon was in a hole, hiding from the Midianite army. One day God sent an angel to tell Gideon ‘The LORD is with you, mighty warrior!’ And that God wanted him to lead an army to defeat the Midianites. But Gideon was afraid so the angel told Gideon, ‘God will be with you.’ Gideon did what God said and led God’s army. One night, Gideon gave the army trumpets, jars, and torches and told the army to follow him quietly to where the Midianites were. When Gideon told them to, they made a really loud noise by blowing their trumpets, raise Gideon’s arm with the trumpet and make a trumpet sound. *(Pause.)* And they smashed their jars, raise Gideon’s arm with the torch. Then they shouted: ‘For the LORD and for Gideon!’ And just like that, the Midianites were so afraid, they ran away.”

After the Activity: “Everyone shout with me, ‘For the LORD and for Gideon!’ (With children.) ‘For the LORD and for Gideon!’ Way to go super friends! When Gideon was afraid, God helped him be brave. And God can help you be brave too! **Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave.**”

5. Journal and Prayer

What You Need:

- Bible
- Journal
- Fun-shaped pen

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Encourage the children to make a different super kid pose each week as you lead them to your Small Group spot. Sit down and gather the children around you.

During the Activity Review the Bible Story and Memory Verse Hand Motions, then encourage the children to help you make a list in the journal of things some people are afraid of.

Note: Do not give suggestions of what people can be afraid of. Let the children generate their own answers.

After the Activity: Pray with children using the list you made in the journal.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “It’s Small Group time, which means it’s time to make a super kid pose while we walk to our Small Group spot! Do what I do and hold both arms up, like this, and flex your bicep muscles. (*Demonstrate.*) Woah! Look at those muscles! Keep making your super kid pose and follow me! (*Make the super kid pose as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*) We’re here! We can stop making our super kid pose now. It’s time to talk about today’s Bible Story. One, two, three, sit down with me!”

During the Activity: (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*) “In our Bible Story, today, Gideon was hiding because he was afraid. Do you remember where Gideon was hiding? (*Pause for responses.*) Yes! Gideon was hiding in a hole! God sent an angel to tell Gideon that God was with him. When Gideon heard that God was with him, he got out of the hole and did what God said. God helped Gideon be brave when he was afraid, and God can help you be brave too! So, tell me, **who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave!** Stand up and make a super kid pose and let me hear you say it! **Who can help you be brave? [Bottom Line] God can help me be brave!** Wonderful! (*Clap.*) You can sit back down now.

“Strong and courageous are other words we use when we talk about being brave, like in the Bible verse we are learning. It says, ‘Be strong and courageous. (*Muscle arms*) Do not be afraid . . . (*cross and uncross hands*) for the Lord your God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) goes with you,’” (*march in place*) Deuteronomy 31:6. (*Open hands like a book.*) Knowing God was with him helped Gideon be brave, and knowing God is with us can help us be brave too! Let’s stand up again, and say that Bible verse in our bravest voice! Just say what I say and do what I do! ‘Be strong and courageous. (*Muscle arms*) Do not be afraid . . . (*cross and uncross hands*) for the Lord your God (*flat hand with thumb to forehead, pull down*) goes with you,’” (*march in place*) Deuteronomy 31:6. (*Open hands like a book.*)

“You sound so...BRAVE! Now let’s sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. (*Open journal.*) Gideon was afraid of a big army, but God helped Gideon be brave! Let’s make a list of things people can be afraid of in our prayer journal. Then we can use the list when we pray. When I say

your name, tell me one thing people can be afraid of, and I will write it in our journal. *(Note: Don't give suggestions of what people can be afraid of. Let the children generate their own answers. Remember to print, as you write in the journal, so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

After the Activity: "Thank you for helping me make this list. *(Hold up journal.)* Would anyone like to pray before I pray? *(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)* Dear God, sometimes people are afraid of things like *(read the list the children made)*. That's why every person needs You to help them be brave, like You helped Gideon be brave when he was afraid. Please help me and my friends *(say each child's name)* be brave when we are afraid. We love You! In Jesus' name. Amen."