

WAYMAKER

Week 6 - Dominating Doubt

Ben Johnson - May 6, 2018

Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds. Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples invaded the country. They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza and did not spare a living thing for Israel... Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the Lord for help.

Judges 6:2-6 NLT

When the Israelites cried out to the Lord because of Midian, he sent them a prophet, who said, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians. And I delivered you from the hand of all your oppressors; I drove them out before you and gave you their land. I said to you, 'I am the Lord your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.' But you have not listened to me." Judges 6:7-10 NLT

... Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."

Judges 6:11-13 NLT

Then the Lord turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!"

"But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!"

Judges 6:14-15 NLT

What I'm most fearful of...

- The **FUTURE**.
- That I'll be **ALL ALONE**.
- That I'll never **MAKE IT OUT** of this.
- That I'll **LOSE EVERYTHING**.
- That **SOMEONE** will **SEE** me fail.

That I **DON'T** have **CONTROL**

The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength. Therefore, tell the people, 'Whoever is timid or afraid may leave this mountain and go home.'" So, 22,000 of them went home, leaving only 10,000 who were willing to fight. Judges 7:2-3 NLT

But the LORD told Gideon, "There are still too many! Bring them down to the spring, and I will test them to determine who will go with you and who will not." When Gideon took his warriors down to the water, the LORD told him, "Divide the men into two groups. In one group put all those who cup

water in their hands and lap it up with their tongues like dogs. In the other group put all those who kneel down and drink with their mouths in the stream.” Only 300 of the men drank from their hands. All the others got down on their knees and drank with their mouths in the stream. The LORD told Gideon, “With these 300 men I will rescue you and give you victory over the Midianites. Send all the others home.” Judges 7:4-7 NLT

Faith conquers doubt when I recognize that MY GOD is a WAYMAKER, who is more POWERFUL than my PROBLEMS!

How do I dominate doubt with faith?

1. Know God is at WORK in ways you can't see, doing FAR MORE than you will ever know, to BLESS you in ways far greater than you can imagine.

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Ephesians 3:20 NLT

2. EXCHANGE the LIE of my fear and doubt for the TRUTH of God's promises.

He (Satan) has always hated the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, it is consistent with his character; for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44b NLT

*For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline.
2 Timothy 1:7 NLT*

3. Do what I CAN do today, TRUSTING God to take care of my TOMORROW.

That night the LORD said to Gideon, “Take the second bull from your father's herd... Pull down your father's altar to Baal, and cut down the Asherah pole standing beside it. Then build an altar to the LORD your God here on this hilltop sanctuary, laying the stones carefully. Sacrifice the bull as a burnt offering on the altar, using as fuel the wood of the Asherah pole you cut down.”

Judges 6:25-26 NLT

*The horse is prepared for the day of battle, but the victory belongs to the Lord.
Proverbs 21:31 NLT*

*For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.
Philippians 4:13 NLT*

One Last Thought

Remember that ORDINARY people can do EXTRAORDINARY things,
but God can do the IMPOSSIBLE.

Life Group Questions

Share about a time when a friend told you something so amazing you initially didn't believe it and then later found out it was true...

What irony do you find in verses Judges 6:11-12?

What doubts does Gideon express in Judges 6:13-15? About God? About himself?

How does God see Gideon's in the midst of his doubts?

What was so significant about Gideon tearing down the altar of Baal and how did that one act sound the ground work for a miracle later?

What is one area on your life that you are wrestling with doubt right now?

What steps will you take in that area of doubt and how can we pray as a group?

*For I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength.
Philippians 4:13 NLT*

Upcoming Teaching Schedule:

May 13

- Dublin: Pastors Doug & Crystal - 9am & 10:45am
- Alamo: Pastors Doug & Crystal - 12:15pm* and 5pm, plus streaming at 9am, 10:45am.

May 20

- Dublin: Pastors Doug & Crystal - streaming 9am & 10:45am
- Alamo: Pastors Doug & Crystal 9am, 10:45am, 12:15pm*

ALL CHURCH Worship & Prayer Service May 20, 5pm (Dublin)

* We leverage technology to reach more people for Jesus, and (on most Sundays) to experience the same Biblical Teaching, regardless of the campus you attend. However, if you are looking for a service that consistently has "live teaching," Alamo 12:15pm is that service. Other morning services alternate simulcast teaching — generally every other week. 5pm, in Alamo, is also "live" most Sundays.