

CROSSOVER

WEEK 1

BIG IDEA

God gives extraordinary peace.

BIBLE

Gideon Asks for a Sign: Judges 6;
(Philippians 4:7)

WHAT?

QUESTION | Come Again?

- **Have you ever been told to do something, but you were not sure what you heard?**-Maybe you were confused about the directions, or maybe you really couldn't hear at all, but you knew it was important?

THE BIG IDEA | God gives extraordinary peace.

SO WHAT?

SCRIPTURE | Judges 6

- **INSTRUCTIONS:-**
 - *Play this week's Teaching Video from our website.*
 - *Print the Bible coloring page for kids to do while you teach.*
 - *Summarize the Bible story from Judges 6. Here is one way you can do this:*
- Today's Bible story comes from the book of Judges, chapter 6. This

story is about a man named Gideon. Gideon was an Israelite, which means he was a part of God's special family. At this time, the Israelites were really struggling with worshiping idols rather than just God. Does anyone know what an idol is? Yeah, it's something you worship instead of God.

- The golden calf is the most famous one, which Moses had to teach the Israelites to stop worshiping, but there are others throughout history, as well. Worshiping idols does not make God happy, and God was very angry with the Israelites. As a consequence of their actions, the Israelites spent a long time being ruled by a group of people called the Midianites.
- God appeared to Gideon and said Gideon was going to be used to free the Israelites from the Midianites. Gideon wasn't so sure, though. So, Gideon asked God to prove it.
- First, Gideon set out a fleece skin and asked God to make the fleece skin wet with dew, but keep all the ground under it and around it dry. Gideon figured that if God did that, then Gideon would take it as a sign that God was going to do as promised and help Gideon free the Israelites. Guess what happened? If your guess was that the fleece got wet, but the ground stayed dry, you are exactly right!
- But Gideon still wasn't sure, so the next night he asked God to do the opposite. This time, Gideon wanted the fleece to be dry and the ground to be wet. Guess what? God did exactly what Gideon asked! Knowing God was really and truly on his side, Gideon decided to call together an army of Israelites to fight beside him.

OBJECT LESSON | Full of Faith

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *-Place two plastic water bottles, with the labels removed, in front of the kids. Show them that one is full and the other is empty. The water inside the full bottle represents faith. The full bottle is full of faith while the other bottle is empty and has no faith. You'll demonstrate what happens when you hit the empty (faithless) water bottle with a solid downward smack from the top: it will become smashed and destroyed. Then, you'll demonstrate what happens when you hit the full (faith filled) water bottle: it might have a little damage, but*

it still stands and can be used.

- We've got two bottles here, one full and one empty. Today, water is representing faith, so this bottle here is full of faith and this one has no faith at all. We're going to see how these bottles hold up to tough stuff. Okay, first I'm going to have a go at this bottle that has no faith at all. Ready... set... kerplow! Oh, no! The bottle is totally smushed and busted! Okay, now I'm going to try the same thing with the bottle that's full of faith. Ready... set... kerplow! Hey! Look at this! It got a little dent, but I think it's still fine!
- God wanted Gideon to lead, and even though Gideon needed a little reassurance from God, he had faith. It is okay to sometimes need a little extra peace from God when it comes to doing something brave. But it is important to remember that we should have faith and God will give us the extraordinary peace and strength to tackle whatever comes our way.

SCRIPTURE | Philippians 4:7

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** -*Read the Bible verse. Depending on your preferred translation, you might need to prompt the kids with a, "Who knows what surpasses/transcends means?"*
- No matter what you're going through, whether it makes sense to you or not, God can give you peace. Peace is when you feel calm and confident. Gideon was asked to do something, and he thought maybe God picked the wrong person. But God cared so much about Gideon, God proved to Gideon that he had heard God correctly.
- Gideon felt that he was ordinary, but God made sure to let Gideon know that with God's peace and strength, Gideon was extraordinary! And just like with Gideon, God can give you peace, too, no matter what!

NOW WHAT?

REFLECTION | What Will I Do For God?

- God had a specific plan and job for Gideon to do. And guess what? God has a specific plan and job for you, too!
- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *-Pass out blank paper die cuts in the shape of people, as well as something to write and color with. Kids can either write what they feel their calling is or draw what they think their calling might be.*
- Take a person and either write down or color a picture of what it is you think you might want to do for God one day. Maybe you want to be a teacher, a doctor, a musician, a missionary, a firefighter, a parent, an astronaut, a ballet dancer, a veterinarian... Maybe you want to be a lot of different things! Maybe you don't know what it is God wants you to do. That's totally okay! You're not alone in that feeling! We can always pray to God for a little guidance to help you discover what God wants you to do.

PRAYER

- Dear God, help us to be brave, just like You did for Gideon, and to stand up for what we believe is right. Grant us peace as we learn to be still and to keep trying to listen for Your voice.

MEMORY VERSE | Ephesians 3:20 (NIV)

God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.