"Gideon - Choosing to Be Used of God" Judges 6:1-24

God solves big problems with little people.

I. There was a big problem situation in Israel. Verses 1-7

"1 Then the sons of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord; and the Lord gave them into the hands of Midian seven years. ² The power of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of Midian the sons of Israel made for themselves the dens which were in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds... ⁶ So Israel was brought very low because of Midian, and the sons of Israel cried to the Lord.

- A. The Lord sold them to for seven years of oppression by the Medianites (v1)
 - 1. Under the hands of Midianites was divine chastening for Israel's idolatry and evil practices.
 - 2. The Midianites were
- B. The Israelites suffered great oppression (v2)
- C. Crying out to the Lord for help lacked repentance (v6)
- D. The Lord Rebukes the idolatry of Israel v7-10
 - 1. They were not in control of their lives anymore.
 - 2. They suffered material lose.
- II. God's Solution is to choose certain people.
 - A. God sends people like Gideon:

1 people -	What do we mean?	Let's read verse
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v11 Then the angel of the Lord came and sat under the oak that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite as his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine press in order to save it from the Midianites.

- a. God sees what we cannot see. He saw a mighty warrior.
- b. Jesus went to the cross taking our blame so that the Father could call us blameless, Saints, holy and beloved.

2.	people –
	 PP

v.12 The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, O valiant warrior." 13 Then Gideon said to him, "O my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."

3. _____ people – He was aware of his human inadequacy.

v.14 The Lord looked at him and said, "Go in this your strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?" 15 He said to Him, "O Lord, how shall I deliver Israel? Behold, my family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house."

- **4. God chooses people like** _____. (fearful, frustrated, inadequate)
 - a. If we should have problems in our family, our church, our work then Jesus is the answer.
 - b. We are to spread His knowledge. --- "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place." 2 Corinthians 2:14
- B. In the same way God _____. He says, "You do it."
 - 1. God promised Gideon that He would go with Him v.16 "But the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat Midian as one man."
 - 2. <u>Example</u>: "Jesus, we got a problem. We have 5,000 people, we are in the middle of nowhere. How are they going to get something to eat?" **Matthew 14:16–18**

When there is great need God will choose us, He will send us, and He will go with us.

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I. There was a big problem situation in Israel. Verses 1-7

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- A. The Lord sold them to the Midianites for seven years of oppression (v1)
 - 1. Under the hands of Midianites was divine chastening for Israel's idolatry and evil practices.
 - 2. The Midianites were
- B. The Midianites caused great oppression (v2)
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- D. The Lord Rebukes the idolatry of Israel v7-10
 - 1. They were not in control of their lives anymore.
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- II. God's Solution is to choose certain people.
 - A. God sends people like Gideon:
 - 1. Fearful people --- What do we mean? Let's read verse

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- a. God sees what we cannot see. He saw a mighty warrior.
- b. Jesus went to the cross taking our blame so that the Father could call us blameless, Saints, holy and beloved.

2. Frustrated people -

- **v.12** The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said to him, "The Lord is with you, O valiant warrior." 13 Then Gideon said to him, "O my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."
- 3. **Inadequate people** He was aware of his human inadequacy.

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 - a. If we should have problems in our family, our church, our work then Jesus is the answer.
 - b. We are to spread His knowledge. --- "But thanks be to God, who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and manifests through us the sweet aroma of the knowledge of Him in every place." 2 Corinthians 2:14
- B. In the same way God sends us. God says, "You do it."
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