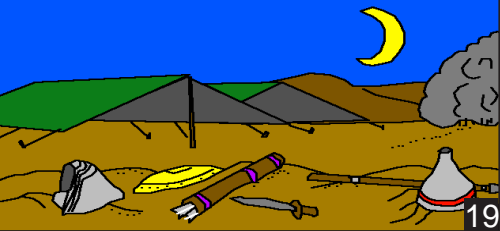
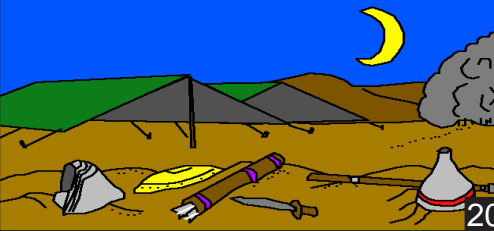


At Gideon's signal, the soldiers blew their trumpets, smashed their pitchers and lit their torches.



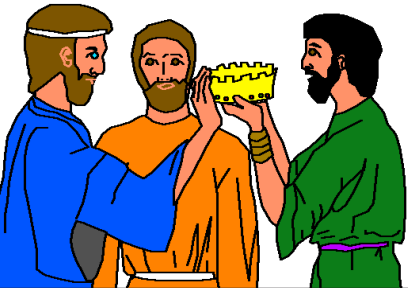
19

What noise! What confusion! The scared Midianites got up and ran away.



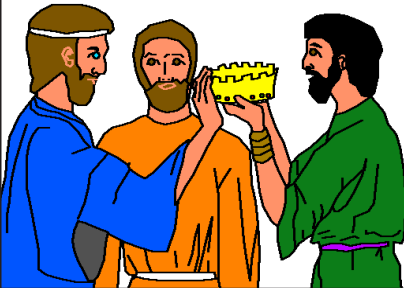
20

After this great victory, the men of Israel asked Gideon to rule over them.



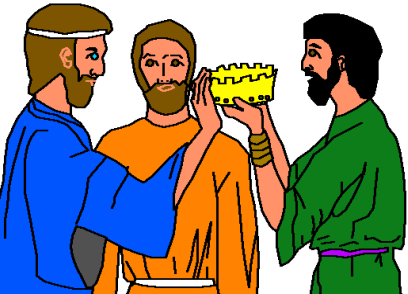
21

"I will not rule over you .. the LORD shall rule over you," Gideon replied.



22

He knew that only God has the right to rule in people's lives.



23

### Gideon's Little Army

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Judges 6-8

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."  
Psalm 119:130



Written by Edward Hughes

Illustrated by Janie Forest

Adapted by Ruth Klassen

Story 15 of 60

M1914.org

Bible for Children, PO Box 3, Winnipeg MB R3C 2G1 Canada

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**God knows** we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The penalty for sin is death.

**God loves us** so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and pay our penalty. **Jesus came alive** and went back to Heaven! Now God can forgive our sins.

**If you want to turn from your sins**, say this to God:  
Dear God, I believe Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so I can have new life now, and then be with You forever. Help me live for You as Your child. Amen. John 3:16

**Read the Bible and talk to God every day!**

English



After Joshua died, all the people of Israel disobeyed God and left Him out of their lives.

1



God let the neighboring Midianites burn Israel's crops and houses. The Israelites had to live in caves.

2



One Israelite, Gideon, must have had a secret place to grow wheat.

3



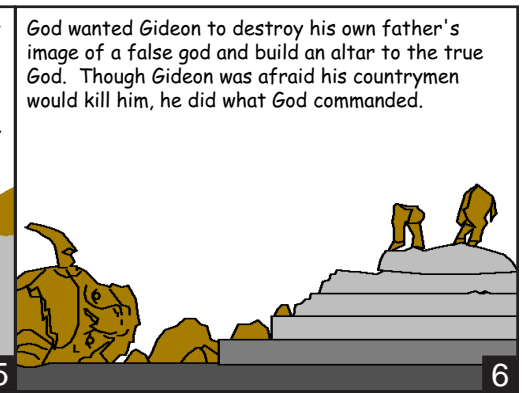
He threshed the grain by a hidden winepress, under a large tree.

4



The Midianites didn't know the place - but God did! God sent an Angel with a message for Gideon.

5



6



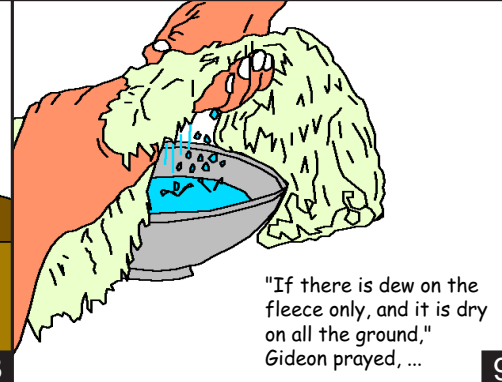
God also wanted Gideon to lead Israel's army against the wicked Midianites.

7



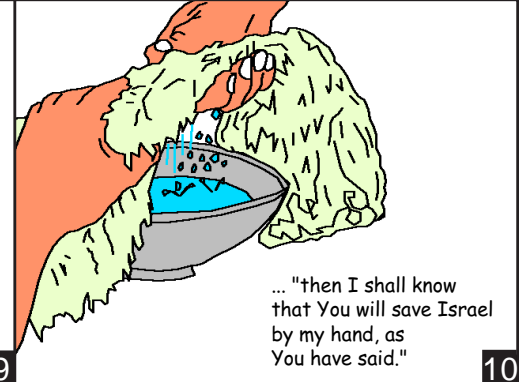
But Gideon was afraid. He asked for a special sign that God was with him. Then he laid a fleecy sheepskin on the ground.

8



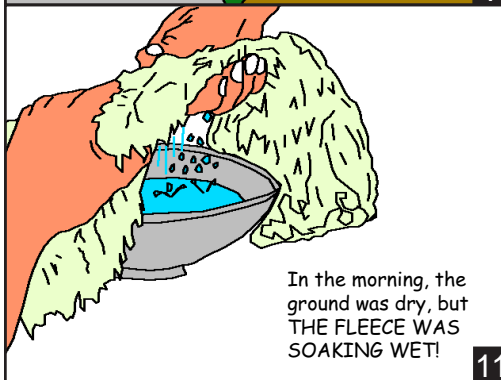
"If there is dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground," Gideon prayed, ...

9



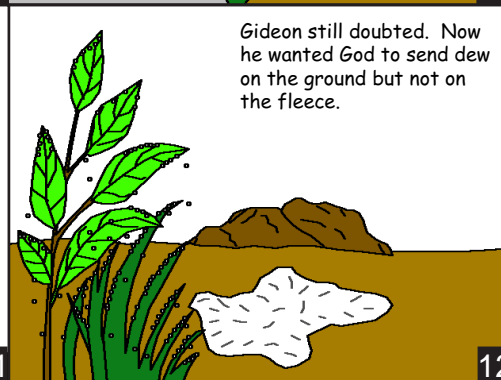
... "then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said."

10



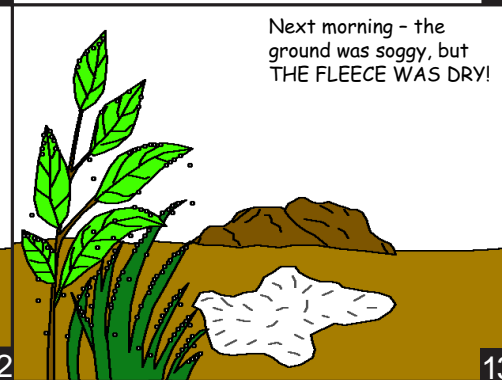
In the morning, the ground was dry, but **THE FLEECE WAS SOAKING WET!**

11



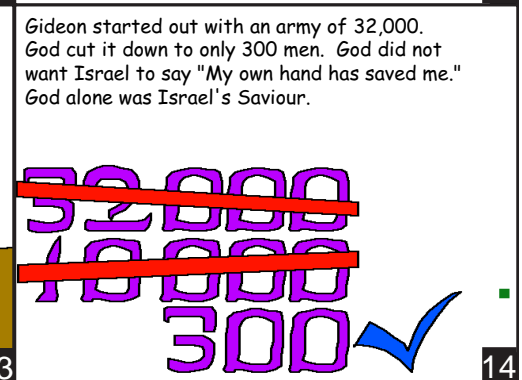
Gideon still doubted. Now he wanted God to send dew on the ground but not on the fleece.

12



Next morning - the ground was soggy, but **THE FLEECE WAS DRY!**

13



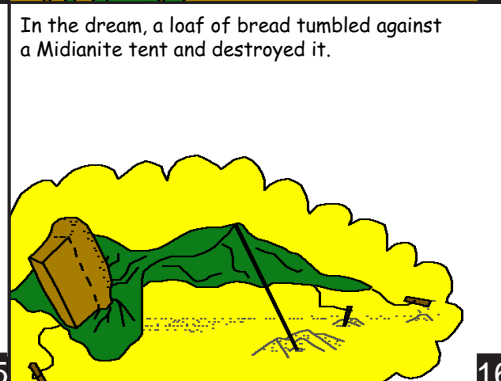
Gideon started out with an army of 32,000. God cut it down to only 300 men. God did not want Israel to say "My own hand has saved me." God alone was Israel's Saviour.

14



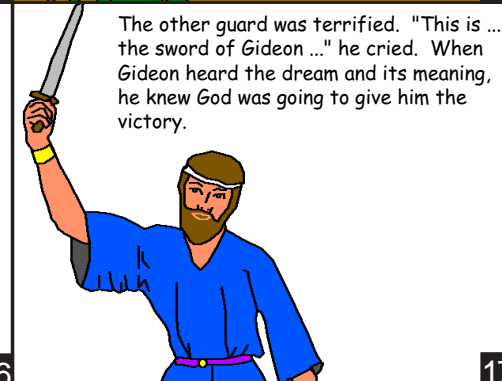
Knowing Gideon was still afraid, God let him secretly overhear one Midianite soldier tell another about a strange dream.

15



In the dream, a loaf of bread tumbled against a Midianite tent and destroyed it.

16



The other guard was terrified. "This is ... the sword of Gideon ..." he cried. When Gideon heard the dream and its meaning, he knew God was going to give him the victory.

17



Gideon planned a night attack. He gave each soldier a trumpet, and empty pitchers with torches inside. They surrounded the Midianite army.

18