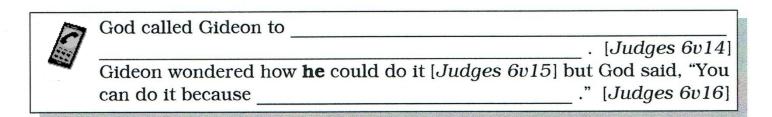




The Israelites lived in the promised land but they did not overcome all the enemies there.

As time passed, people forgot the Lord and what he had done for them. When they turned away from God things went very badly - whenever they turned back to him he sent leaders to save them.



8	God calls Gideon.	Judges	6v1-24
	Gideon destroys idols. Gideon asks God for a sign.		6v25-32
	Gideon asks God for a sign.		6v33-40
	God chooses only 300 for Gideon's army.		7v1-8
	Gideon's army fights the Midianites.		7v9-25
	Gideon completely defeats the Midianites.		8



The leaders that God gave to the Israelites at this time were called 'judges'. [Judges 2v10-18]

There was Othniel [Judges 3v7-11], Ehud [Judges 3v12-30], Shamgar [Judges 3v31], and Deborah and Barak [Judges 4-5] before Gideon. The Holy Spirit helped them in special ways.

See Judges 3v10 and 6v34.



Read Judges 8v22-27.

When Gideon was asked to be king, he said no, because he knew that the people should look to God to lead them - but then he wrongly decided to make something to represent God. What happened?

The people ______ it. It was ______ for Gideon and

his family. [Judges 8v27]

(((a))) The Lord's words to Gideon are like Jesus' words	s to his followers:-
You are special to God	
"The Lord is with you	" [Judges 6v12]
"And so I tell you, you are	
	." [Matthew 16v18]
God is sending you	
"Go, I myself am sending you." [Judges 6v14]	
Jesus said, "As the Father sent me,	"
[John 20v21]	
The Holy Spirit will be with you	
"You can do it because	." [Judges 6v16]
"I will ask the Father and he will give you	
	." [John 14v16]
	. (00/// 12010)
God's peace will surround you	
But the Lord said, "	." [Judges 6v23]
	I give you.

[John 14v27]



Do not

Gideon learned to trust God in these ways:-

- not being afraid to do what God said. [Judges 6v14-16]
- not relying on big numbers to win. [Judges 7v2-7]

What have you discovered from his example?