



March 19, 2026

BOOK: Judges 7-8:8

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Opening Questions:

- a. What criteria do you use to select people to help you?
- b. Have you ever seen a small team—or even just one person—pull off something bigger than anyone expected?
- c. Have you ever used flattery as a way to diffuse a situation? Is there anything wrong with that?

Discussion Questions:

Chapter 7

1. Why did God want to reduce the size of Gideon's army? (*Eph. 2:8-9, 1 Cor.:1:26-31*)
2. Why were the others sent home? Wouldn't they be useful in another capacity later on? (*Deut. 20:8*)
3. Explain the selection process for the army. (verses 2-7).
4. What quality is God seeking in the troops chosen for this battle? What does lapping water have to do with anything?
5. How do you think Gideon felt when God tells him he has too many men?
6. Is there a biblical or practical lesson God is teaching Gideon?
7. Why did God want Gideon to go down to the Midianite camp? Was there a purpose?
8. What role did Puah play?

9. Discuss the dream Gideon overheard in verses 13-14.
10. Do you think God gives people prophetic dreams today?
11. Can you identify the purpose of military strategy Gideon employed in verses 16-18?
12. Describe the details of the battle (verses 19-22).
13. What tribes were called in as a part of the battle effort? Why?
14. Is there a reason Gideon called the Ephraimites called into battle?
15. Does Gideon's battle resemble any other in the bible? How does the methodology differ? (Joshua 10)
16. What's your "hot take" on Gideon's arc? Are there potential areas of concern?

Chapter 8

13. Why are the Ephraimites upset? Were their concerns petty, jealous, or legitimate? Explain. (*Jud. 3:26-29, 5:13-14a*)
14. Do you think Gideon was sincere in his response to the Ephraimites? (*Prov. 15:1.*)
15. What were the challenges with dealing with the Ephraimites?
16. Should the people of Sukkoth and Penuel helped Gideon and his men?
17. From the text, can you glean what their real concern was?
18. How do you describe the difference in Gideon's approach to the Ephraimites verses Sukkoth & Penuel?
20. Did Gideon go too far with the men of Penuel?