

Let's Talk: Day 106-One Story

Judge Gideon – God Reduces Gideon's Army to Ensure God Gets All the Credit

Today's Reading: Judges 6 & 7; 1Corinthians 1:26-31

Using action figures, dolls or stuffed animals, act out this battle. Make certain Gideon's army is the smallest and that it is victorious!!

Questions:

1. What was Gideon doing when God called him to deliver Israel? How does it make you feel when God repeatedly uses "everyday" people to do extraordinary things for Him?
2. Why did Gideon use the fleece? Are there times when God promises you something that you have trouble believing the first time? Is it okay to ask God for confirmation?
3. Why did God say Gideon had "too many" soldiers to fight the Midianites? How many people did God eliminate from Gideon's army? How many were left?
4. Why does 1Corinthians 1 say that God enjoys using "underdogs" to do His work? Have you ever seen God work through (or in spite of) your weakness? How?

Let's Talk: Day 107

Judge Samson – The Nazirite Vow to Separate Yourself to the LORD

Today's Reading: Judges 13; Numbers 6:1-21; Amos 2:10-13

What is the craziest thing you would do to separate yourself for the Lord? Would you be willing to do so for an entire day? Share your experiences!

Questions:

1. The "Nazirite vow" was a way to allow regular people to commit themselves to God. What were some of the rules involved with taking this vow?

2. Who decided that Samson would take the Nazirite vow? Who did he tell?
3. Why was Israel suffering at the hands of the Philistines for 40 years?
4. When the angel left, what was Manoah worried about? What would you have thought if that experience had happened to you?

Let's Talk: Day 108

Judge Samson – Samson, the Spirit & Victory With the Jawbone of a Donkey

Today's Reading: Judges 14 & 15; Zechariah 4:6

Samson told a riddle. Have fun with some riddles of your own. You can find some at <http://www.funology.com/riddles/>

Questions:

1. What is the source of Samson's unique strength? How were the Philistines able to answer Samson's riddle?
2. Do you think all of Samson's decisions were wise? Why do you think God uses people in spite of their weaknesses and mistakes?
3. According to Zechariah, what should we not rely on? On what should we rely?
4. Talk about how you can rely on God's strength rather than your own.

Let's Talk: Day 109

Judge Samson – Delilah's Nagging, Samson's Foolishness & Samson's Death

Today's Reading: Judges 16; Proverbs 5:1-14 & 27:15-16

Show your children an empty pop can. Place it on the floor, put your foot on it and balance your weight over it while holding onto the back of a chair. Let your children step on it and try to balance their weight on it also. When we break our promises with God like Samson did, it is like putting a dent in this can (place a dent in it). Now what do you think will happen if I try to step on this can? Show your children how the can has lost its strength.

Questions:

1. What amazing feat of strength did Samson perform at Gaza?
2. How did Delilah convince Samson to tell her his secret? Are you ever guilty of using this tactic with your friends or family? What could you do differently?
3. What did Delilah do to Samson? What did the Philistines do to Samson? How did Samson get his strength back? Has there ever been a time in your life when God used you after you made a big mistake?
4. What does Proverbs 5 say about the dangers of listening to the wrong kinds of people? What instruction does Proverbs give us on how to avoid that?

Let's Talk: Day 110

Ruth Follows Naomi – The Story of the Moabites & God's Love for Foreigners/Widows

Today's Reading: Ruth 1; Deuteronomy 23:3-6 & 10:17-19

Choose one of the female characters in this passage and write a journal entry from her perspective. Or tell her story in pictures. Share the story with your family. If you have boys, make sure they create a funny female voice as they tell the story.

Questions:

1. When Naomi told her two daughters-in-law that she was going home to Bethlehem, what were their two different responses?
2. Read what Ruth said to Naomi again. Why did Ruth make the decision she made?
3. Discuss whether you are more like Naomi, Orpah or Ruth. Imagine what it would be like to leave all your friends and your family and know you would never come back home again.
4. What did Ruth's people the Moabites do to the nation of Israel several years before this story? How were the Israelites supposed to treat needy people like widows, orphans and foreigners? How have you cared for the needy recently?

Let's Talk: Day 111

Ruth Meets Boaz – Caring for the Poor & Allowing the Poor to Collect Food After Harvest

Today's Reading: Ruth 2; Deuteronomy 15:7-11 & 24:17-22

Throw breakfast cereal on the ground. Everyone can collect their food from the floor, like Ruth did. Or be more practical and collect food from your own pantry and give it to the poor.

Questions:

1. Who was Boaz? How did Ruth and Boaz meet?
2. What instructions did Boaz give Ruth? What about Ruth's character drew Boaz to her?
3. How did Boaz live out God's commandments in Deuteronomy to care for the needy?
4. Discuss how your household can help the needy sometime over the next 30 days.

Let's Talk: Day 112

Today's Reading: Sunday is the weekly OFF day

Weekly Review: Think back on this week's reading. What story stands out to you and why? As a family, pick a verse to meditate on or memorize.