

# Bible Reading Together during this Covid-19 Shutdown

## January 31-February 6: Read Judges 6 & 7 & Gospel of John 16

### Judges 6-7

We look at two of the many Judges in the book of Judges. The first is Gideon. Gideon never wanted to be a leader and he didn't think he was worthy to be one. Gideon's rise to become a great leader used by God is a story for every person who thinks God couldn't use them because...

#### Further Study & Discussion

- Judges 6:1-10 is a description of Israel's problem with God. When they are in trouble, they call out to God for help and rescue. But when God offers them peace at all sides, they turn away from God. It's a warning to us today to break that habit and worship and adore God when we are at peace. How does this speak to you today?
- Gideon's first conversation with the angel of the Lord goes from v.11 to v.27. What stands out for you?
- Gideon's father stands up for Gideon in v.31. Talk about a time when your father stood up for you.
- Gideon 7 is the exciting story of Gideon leading 300 men to defeat the army of 135,000 (Judges 8:10-11). V.1-8 has been preached often. How do you understand God's sifting the army of 32,000 down to 300? Why did God do it?
- V.19-20 reads, "...torches in their left hands and holding in their right hands the trumpets they were to blow..." No one has a weapon in their hands! How do you understand this very odd plan of God?

### John 16

Jesus continues his teaching on the coming of the Holy Spirit. When life is hard and one feels threatened at all sides, the Holy Spirit is our Advocate during those times. But then Jesus will return in glory!

#### Further Study & Discussion

- Before Jesus' second coming, the Christians are to prepare for suffering to come. For their faith, they will be ostracized and even killed (v.1-2). We know that this is happening in other parts of the world. Why aren't we suffering for our faith? How can we join in the suffering of believers?
- What is the role of the Holy Spirit? See v.8-11 and v.13-15.
- Jesus uses an image of childbirth in v.21 to describe his return. Explain what Jesus is trying to say here.