

Judges 6:11-16 (NKJV) Now the Angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth tree which was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. 12 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him, and said to him, "The LORD is with you, you mighty man of valor!" 13 Gideon said to Him, "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites." 14 Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?" 15 So he said to Him, "O my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." 16 And the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man."

1 Corinthians 10:31 (NLT) So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

Rise Up For God

1. When We Rise Up For God, We Discover Who We Really Are.

- **Judges 6:11–12 (NKJV)** Gideon threshed wheat in the winepress, in order to hide it from the Midianites. And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, 'The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor!'"
- **Romans 6:6, 13 (NKJV)** knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

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2. In Order to Rise Up For God, We Must Be Willing to Tear Down What's not of God.

- **Judges 6:25–26 (NKJV)** Now it came to pass the same night that the Lord said to him, 'Take your father's young bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that is beside it; and build an altar to the Lord your God on top of this rock...'
- **Luke 14:26 (NKJV)** If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

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3. In Order to Rise Up For God, We Must Learn to Discern His Voice.

- **Judges 6:36–40 (NKJV)** So Gideon said to God, "...I shall put a fleece of wool on the threshing floor; if there is dew on the fleece only, and it is dry on all the ground, then I shall know that You will save Israel by my hand, as You have said." And it was so. Then Gideon said to God, "Do not be angry with me, but let me speak just once more: let me test, I pray, just once more with the fleece; let it now be dry only on the fleece, but on all the ground let there be dew." And God did so that night. It was dry on the fleece only, but there was dew on all the ground.
- **Romans 8:14 (NKJV)** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
- **John 10:27 (NKJV)** Jesus said, "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me"

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4. In Order to Rise Up For God, Trust is a Must.

- **Judges 7:2–7** (NKJV shortened) The Lord said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim the glory for itself.” So twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained. But the Lord said, “There are still too many. Bring them down to the water, and I will test them there.” Those who lapped the water with their hands to their mouths were three hundred men; all the rest knelt to drink. Then the Lord said to Gideon, “By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand.”

- Trust that God Can Do It When the Odds Are Stacked Against You

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- Trust that Sometimes It’s Not the Enemy Downsizing You — It’s God

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- Trust God to Surround You with the Right People

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5. To Rise Up For God, Expect God to Use the Enemy for Our Good.

- **Judges 7:9–15** (NKJV) That night the Lord said to Gideon, “Arise, go down against the camp, for I have delivered it into your hand. But if you are afraid, go down with Purah your servant, and you shall hear what they say; afterward your hands shall be strengthened.” So Gideon went down and heard a man telling a dream to his companion: ‘A loaf of barley bread tumbled into the camp of Midian and struck a tent so that it collapsed.’ His friend replied, “This is nothing else but the sword of Gideon ... God has delivered Midian and the whole camp into his hand.” When Gideon heard it, he worshiped and returned to Israel’s camp, saying, “Arise, for the Lord has delivered the camp of Midian into your hand!”

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6. When You Rise Up for God, You Experience the Supernatural.

- **Judges 7:16–22** (NKJV, shortened) Then he divided the three hundred men into three companies, and he put a trumpet into every man’s hand, with empty pitchers and torches inside the pitchers. And he said to them, “Look at me and do likewise... When I blow the trumpet, you also blow the trumpets on every side of the camp, and say, ‘The sword of the Lord and of Gideon!’” So Gideon and the hundred men who were with him came to the outpost of the camp... Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the pitchers—they held the torches in their left hands and the trumpets in their right hands... and the Lord set every man’s sword against his companion throughout the whole camp.

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