

GOD USES CRACKED POTS

Your Story, His Glory

“And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah” (Hebrews 11:32).

Gideon was Fearful.

(Judges 6:36-40). Only then did Gideon finally believe what the Lord had told him in the beginning.

If you read Judges 7, you can see that God used Gideon and his 300 men to spring a nighttime surprise on the unsuspecting Midianites. He used a classic military ruse to make them think his army was much larger than it was. They had to do something unusual because the enemy forces were “thick as locusts” in the valley (Judges 7:12). He divided his 300 men into 3 groups and spread them out around the vast Midianite army. At the appointed hour, the men began to shout, blow trumpets, and wave torches in the darkness. The Midianites fled in total confusion, leading to a complete defeat of the enemy and a total victory for Gideon’s men.

Turns out that Gideon made a fine military leader once he got past his fear. As long as he thought he couldn’t do it, he was right. But once faith replaced fear, he won a mighty victory for the Lord.

THE PUZZLING PARADOX:

God delights in using imperfect vessels.

“Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world...and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, so that no one may boast before Him.”

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

LIBERATING TRUTH: A cracked pot reveals more of God’s light.

“If you only look at us, you might well miss the brightness. We carry this precious message around in the unadorned clay pots of our ordinary lives. That’s to prevent anyone from confusing God’s incomparable power with us.”

2 Corinthians 4:7 (The Message)