

The Call vs. The Culture

March 9, 2025 – Chapter Eight
Adult Bible Class

The call vs. the culture: a never-ending battle between being different (set apart) and being the same as everybody else.

Two different ways God provided through two very different judges:

A. He helped a leader in _____.

How could a whole generation grow up after Joshua and “know neither the Lord nor what He did for Israel?” Because the culture is _____.

“This dream can be nothing other than the sword of Gideon...God has given the Midianites and the whole camp into his hands!”

Judges 7:14

B. He defeated a leader in his _____.

1. No strength you have is ever enough to make up for your _____.
2. People _____ have no need of God's power.
3. If your strength is not consecrated to God, it becomes your _____.

Today's Equipping Point

_____ ***your gift***

Offer your greatest talent to God. How?

- _____ for the times you've used your gift sinfully.
- _____ before exercising it.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.”

Matthew 5:5

When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, and so were James and John...

Luke 5:4-10

Well, how much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets. By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight.

Hebrews 11:32-34

Paraphrase:

"How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Roger, Dave, Kae, Bill, Marge, and _____. By faith these men and women overthrew Satan's influence, led their families with grace, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of naysayers, quenched the fires of doubt, and escaped death through the blood of Jesus. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies of the Enemy to flight."

Discussion Questions

1. What part of our culture has been the sneakiest in your life?
2. Why do you think God was so gracious to give so many confirmations to Gideon?
3. No false modesty here:
 - a. What is your greatest gift?

Now how will you consecrate that strength to God?



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