



Theophany: Gideon

Judges 6:1-27

Brandon Lauranzon, November 28 & 29, 2015

Step 1: Reflect on the Text

Why do we do this first? We always want to start with the Bible. The goal is to meditate on the Word and read it with an ear sensitive to the Holy Spirit's promptings. Look for words or phrases that stand out through logic, repetition, layout, etc.

-  Read Judges 6:1-27. What stood out to you? What did you find interesting and/or important? What was challenging or caused you to have questions?

Step 2: Reflect on the Sermon

INTRODUCTION

- 1 What will be your first question for God when you get to heaven? When was the last time you asked Him, "Why has all this happened to us/me?"
- 2 What was your one big/main takeaway from the service? If someone had arrived as everyone was leaving, and they stopped you in the parking lot and asked, "What was the sermon about?" what would you have said?

GIDEON: WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

- 3 What was the "problem beneath the problem" for the Israelites in Judges chapter 6? How would you define "idolatry" for someone who has never heard the term?
- 4 Have you ever experienced the fatherly discipline of God? What was He trying to teach you through that suffering? How did God want to change you before He changed your circumstances?

GIDEON: WHAT'S THE PROMISE?

- 5 What kind of person was Gideon? How was he like us?
- 6 What is the great promise of the Scriptures?
- 7 Brandon said, "Expect God to ask you to follow him into difficult places. He will ask you to sacrifice your comforts, your control, your money, your view of success and the American Dream. He will ask you to walk through dark valleys and difficult circumstances. But in all these things, God promises to be with you." How have you experienced this to be true in your own life?

GIDEON: WHERE'S THE PEACE?

- 8 Why could no one see God face-to-face and live?
- 9 Brandon said, "Suffering can make you have a crisis of faith. In the face of intense suffering you can begin to think, does God even love me anymore, am I his enemy, are we at peace?" Have you ever thought those things because of suffering?
- 10 How does Jesus secure our peace with God and peace on earth?

Step 3: Final Reflections

- † How has your understanding, appreciation, and love for Jesus and the gospel grown as a result of this study?
- ♥ In what areas of faith and practice are you feeling convicted by the Holy Spirit to act as a result of this study?