

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further
International Bible Lessons

Judges 6:11-18
Sunday, June 11, 2017
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. From your reading and study of Judges 6:11-18, who appeared to Gideon at the oak?

“The LORD” is the personal name of God: Jehovah, Yahweh, and YHWH. Gideon addressed the angel of the Lord with respect as “my Lord.” In verses 14 and 16, we learned that “the LORD turned to him and said” and “the LORD answered.” Many teach that these verses and other places in the Old Testament indicate that the Person who appeared to Gideon as “the angel of the LORD” was Jesus, the Son of God, before He was incarnated (conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary).

2. From reading Judges 6:1-18, how did God prepare the people and Gideon for their salvation through Gideon?

God sent a prophet who told them how God had saved them from slavery in Egypt and why they had been suffering for the previous seven years under the Midianites.

3. Do you think Gideon and his family were rich or poor? Give a reason for your answer.

Rich. They had goats, wheat, and cattle, though they still feared the Midianites’ attacks. The altar to God and to Baal the townspeople used had been erected by Gideon’s father.

4. How did God encourage Gideon?

God called him “mighty warrior.” He said twice that He was and would be with him in doing what He commanded. He gave him a sign as Gideon requested. Later God gave him a command to do a dangerous thing that could cost him his life, and God made certain he succeeded before sending him into battle.

5. When would it be wrong to ask God for a sign?

It would be wrong if we asked God to give us a sign that it was okay with Him for us to refuse to believe in Him or refuse to obey what the Lord has taught us in the Bible or what He has commanded us to do or not do in the Bible. God will not contradict what He has told us in His Word, the Bible; therefore, we should not ask God to give us a sign that it was okay to do something that was wrong.

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