








## Small Group/ Reflection Notes

	<b>28.11.21</b>	<b>Gideon - mighty warrior</b>	
 Start	<input type="checkbox"/> Can you summarise the story of Gideon in 3 words?		
 Discuss	<input type="checkbox"/> What needs are you aware of in your church, community, world just now? <input type="checkbox"/> How can we respond to the awareness of these needs?		
 Read	<a href="#">Judges 7:1-8. 19-21</a>	 Listen again	<a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Watch</a> <a href="http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks">ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/Talks</a>
 Explore	<input type="checkbox"/> The Midianites oppress the Israelites; Gideon, amongst others, cries out to God about the hardship. God's response? <i>I feel the same way - YOU do something about it.</i> Where else in the Bible does He respond like this? Have you ever heard God speak to you like this? <input type="checkbox"/> God calls Gideon 'Mighty Warrior' at a time when he is hiding in a winepress! He sees not only what we are capable of but also what He is able to release within us. What identity, calling or gifting do you recognise God has given you? <input type="checkbox"/> God often leads us through our weaknesses; why do you think this is? Can you think of other times you have seen Him use this approach, either in scripture or in your own experiences? <input type="checkbox"/> vs.3-7: what does the selection of the different groups (the fearful, the kneelers) to send home show us about God and about our relationship with Him? <input type="checkbox"/> In human terms, Gideon's leadership looks disastrous! What's actually going on? Do you think anyone argued with him about his military strategy?! <input type="checkbox"/> Gideon's weaponry is trumpets and torches. God's route to victory here is radical, faith fuelled non-violence. How can we reconcile our faith in the peace-loving God we see here with other Biblical episodes where many are killed? <input type="checkbox"/> Jesus is the ultimate answer to the world's tumult and need: a baby who later surrenders himself to a humiliating and horrific death. How do you see victory here? <input type="checkbox"/> How does Gideon's story foreshadow Jesus'? What parallel threads do you see which reveal something of God's heart and nature? <input type="checkbox"/> What does Gideon's story teach us about our God? About humanity's relationship with God? About ourselves?		

 Go further	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Read <a href="#">2 Corinthians 10:3-5</a>. What weapons is Paul talking about here? How do you interpret the idea that these have ‘divine power to demolish strongholds’?</li> <li>□ What does it mean to ‘take every thought captive to make it obedient to Christ’? How can this empower us? How can we do it?</li> </ul>
 Reflect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>□ Which one verse stands out to you? Why do you think it grabs your attention?</li> <li>□ Which verse(s) will you need to think more about? Why?</li> <li>□ What is God putting on <i>your</i> heart?</li> </ul>
 Do	<p>Have a go at acting out putting on ‘the full armour of God’ as described in <a href="#">Ephesians 6:10-18</a>. Know that as you face the coming week, you can go out under His banner which is love.</p>
 Pray	<p>Almighty God, You speak mercy and compassion over us. Even in my weakest moments, you stand with me. I worship you. Forgive me when I’ve not trusted you. Please speak your truth into my life and show me how you can use me. Amen.</p>
 My questions:	

If you're not yet in a small group, why not join one! Check out: [ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups](http://ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk/SmallGroups)  
 Can't see a group to suit your availability/interest? Start one! [SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk](mailto:SmallGroups@ChesterRoadBaptist.org.uk)