



JUMP JUMP | WEEK 5 | MAY 29-30, 2021

## 2s-3s Lesson

# Gideon's Army

**Bible Story:** *God's way is always perfect. Gideon's Army • Judges 7:1-8*

**Memory Verse:** "God's way is perfect." 2 Samuel 22:31, NIV

**Key Question:** Whose way is perfect?

**Bottom Line:** God's way is perfect.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

**KID CONNECT:**  
30 MINUTES

**LARGE GROUP:**  
15 MINUTES

**SMALL GROUP:**  
15 MINUTES

## LEADER BIBLE STUDY

*Have you ever thought about how many decisions you make in a day? According to some reports, the average adult makes up to 35,000 choices per day. Wow! Some choices are easy—wearing the red shirt or eating the apple instead of the banana. Then, there are the not so easy decisions. What do we do when the decision is hard and we are struggling to know which way to go? We believe the first step to making wise choices is trusting that God's way is perfect. Our prayer is that we can help make many of the 35,000 choices a day our preschoolers will be making one day a whole lot easier. They will know to jump, jump and go God's way, because God's way is perfect!*

Story Focus: **God's way is always perfect.** We will wrap up the month with Gideon. Gideon really had to trust that God's way is perfect—especially after he heard God's plan for Gideon to lead the army. Let's just say it was not your typical battle plan. Gideon trusted God because He knew that God's way is perfect.

## KID CONNECT

### WELCOME TIME

**(VIDEO: ARRIVAL MUSIC)**

Play intro music in the background as you greet preschoolers and follow the KidCity check-in procedures. Set out a few favorite theme-related toys, such as puzzles and blocks.

### OPENING ACTIVITY

**(No Supplies)**

#### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Have the children line up in a single file line.

*During the Activity:* Lead the children around the room while marching. Change the direction of where you go several times. Repeat as desired.

#### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* "Soldiers march in our Bible story today. Let's march, too!"

*During the Activity: (Start marching.)* "Let's march all around the room. Are you ready? *(Pause.)* Great job! Let's do it again and go another way! Keep marching!" *(Finish activity.)*

*After the Activity:* "You marched just like the soldiers in our Bible story today. Are you ready to hear a TRUE story from the Bible?" *(Pause.)*

*Transition to Large Group...*

## LARGE GROUP

### COUNTDOWN

**(VIDEO: COUNTDOWN)**

Show the countdown video as the children clean up and transition to Large Group.

### SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

**(CG: EXPECTATION SLIDE: BASIC TRUTHS SLIDE)**

*LARGE GROUP LEADER (LGL) enters, carrying the treasure box. Inside is a Bible and scarves for Worship.*

**LGL:** Hello my friends! How are you today? Come sit with me. I am so glad to see you here. I love being here with you!

Here in KidCity we have three rules. How many rules do we have? *(kids respond)* That's right! Three rules. Let's go over our rules now. (List rules while counting on fingers)

1. **Be kind.** We can be kind by using our speaking voices, by staying on our blankets (or whatever space you have), and by obeying our leaders' directions.
2. **Be safe.** We can be safe by walking around the classroom and keeping our hands to ourselves.
3. **Have fun!** We are going to have SO much fun, and that's because you are here!

Can everybody follow those rules today? (kids respond) Great! KidCity is a place where we learn about God and Jesus! And there are three big truths that we want you to know. Let's say them all together! Are you ready?

1. **I am made by God.** What is it? (kids repeat)
2. **I am loved by God no matter what.** What is it? (kids repeat)
3. **I am made for a purpose!** What is it? (kids repeat)

*LGL sits with the treasure box in front of him/her.*

*NOTE: You can choose to put any large group props that fit inside the box and pull them out for a dramatic reveal.*

**LGL:** Do you see this box? This is a beautiful box, isn't it? It looks special. I wonder what's inside. Do you want to see what's inside? Let's see. *LGL opens the box and pulls out a Bible. It's a Bible!* (hugging the Bible) Oh, I love the Bible! It's so special. Everybody pretend to hug your Bible. Go ahead! (pause) Very good! I wonder...what's in the Bible? The Bible is God's Big Story, and it tells us all about God! We are going to hear a true story from the Bible today. I wonder what else is in this special box? *Pull out scarves for worship time and pass them out to the children.*

## WORSHIP

**(VIDEO: PERFECT, HE IS AMAZING, WORSHIP SCARVES)**

Pass out the scarves to the kids and sing the worship songs

## INTRO SKETCH

**(Plastic Sword, Story Box)**

*LGL brings the story box with the props inside to the middle.*

Hello, friends! I'm [your name], and I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible. Friends, come sit here with me. It's time for our Bible story.

*Hold up the Bible.*

Before we begin, let's see what I have in my story box today. *(Pull out sword and put it on your head)* Whoa, a sword! Our story today is about a man named Gideon. God told him to go fight the big, scary Midianites [Mid-ee-an-ights]. Friends, do you think you can march like an army? Let's try together. Everyone stand up and let's march in place. *(lead kids in marching in place)* Great job marching everyone! Go ahead and sit crisscross apple sauce. Let's see what else God told Gideon to do. Watch our story.

## WATCH THE BIBLE STORY

(VIDEO: BIBLE STORY, BOTTOM LINE)

“Sometimes when God asks us to do something, it doesn’t always make sense to us, but we can trust that *[Bottom Line]* God’s way is perfect. So, we can jump, jump, and go God’s way! **Whose way is perfect?**” *[Bottom Line]* God’s way is perfect. You’ve got it! And Gideon knew it, too. We can trust God because His way is perfect!”

## WRAP UP AND BASIC TRUTH

(CG: BASIC TRUTH SLIDE)

Even when what God tells us to do doesn’t make sense we can trust what our Basic Truth says. It says *[Basic Truth]* I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me. God’s way is perfect and He will be with us, guiding us, every step of the way!

## PRACTICE THE MEMORY VERSE

(CG: MEMORY VERSE)

Let’s say our memory verse together. I will say it first and then you will say it with me.

*‘God’s way (point up)  
is perfect,’ (two thumbs up)  
2 Samuel 22:31.” (Open hands like a book.)*

*Say it once while doing the motions and then invite the kids to do it with you.*

## PRAY AND TRANSITION TO SMALL GROUP

### SMALL GROUP

**Bible Story:** *God’s way is always perfect. Gideon’s Army • Judges 7:1-8*

**Memory Verse:** “God’s way is perfect.” 2 Samuel 22:31, NIRV

**Key Question:** Whose way is perfect?

**Bottom Line:** God’s way is perfect.

**Basic Truth:** I am loved by God no matter what so I can trust God to guide me.

## MEMORY VERSE WITH MOTIONS

(Memory Verse Motions Poster – 1 per group)

Say the memory verse using motions from the Memory Verse Motions poster. Repeat several times and encourage children for trying.

*‘God’s way (point up)  
is perfect,’ (two thumbs up)  
2 Samuel 22:31.” (Open hands like a book.)*

## THE SMALLER THE BETTER

(Little People Figures [Or Equivalent] – At Least 10)

### What You Do:

*During the Activity:* Invite the children to sit around you. Have a lot of toy people standing in front of you. Take away some of the people two different times as you retell the Bible story. Repeat and let the children help take away the toy people.

*After the Activity:* Talk about how Gideon believed that God’s way is always perfect.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “I’m so glad you’re here. Come sit with me!”

*During the Activity:* “In today’s Bible story, Gideon had a big army with a lot of soldiers. Look at the big army! (*Point to the toy people.*) But God told Gideon to send some of the soldiers away. This made Gideon’s army smaller. Bye-bye soldiers. (*Take away several toy people and put them behind you.*) Now look at Gideon’s army. It’s smaller. (*Point to the people.*)

“But God wasn’t done. God told Gideon to send more soldiers away. This made Gideon’s army even smaller! Bye-bye soldiers. (*Take away several people and put them behind you.*) Now look at Gideon’s army. It’s really small. (*Point to the people.*)

“Gideon believed that **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect**, so he did what God said; and everything worked out! Let’s do that again. This time, you can help make the soldiers go bye-bye.” (*Repeat the activity and let the children make the army smaller and smaller.*)

*After the Activity:* “Gideon believed that **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect**, even when it didn’t look like it would work. And God’s way was perfect! God used a small army just like a big army! Yay! **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect! Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**”

## OPTIONAL: BIG JUMP, LITTLE JUMP

(No Supplies)

### What You Do:

*Before the Activity:* Have the children stand in front of you.

*During the Activity:* Call out, “Big jump,” and challenge the children to jump as high as they can. Then call out, “Little Jump,” and ask the children to do a very small jump. Keep calling out the jumps faster and faster so that the children constantly jump.

### What You Say:

*Before the Activity:* “Let’s jump, jump!”

*During the Activity:* “I will call out, ‘BIG JUMP,’ and you jump as HIGH as you can. Let’s try it! BIG JUMP! *(Pause)* WOW! Those were some really big jumps. Now, I will call out ‘Little jump,’ and you can show me a tiny jump. Let’s give it a try. Little jump. *(Pause.)* Those were awesome little jumps. Now listen closely to what I say. We will JUMP, JUMP! BIG JUMP, little jump, BIG JUMP, BIG JUMP, little jump!” *(Continue and finish the activity.)*

*After the Activity:* “That was so much fun! Whew that made me tired! I love how you listened and did things my way. We can all follow God’s way! **[Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect! Whose way is perfect? [Bottom Line] God’s way is perfect!**”

## **BOTTOM LINE SONG**

Sing the following words to the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush”.

“This is the way we clap our hands,  
“Clap our hands,  
“Clap our hands.  
“This is the way we clap our hands.  
“God’s way is perfect.”

## **CONNECT WITH PARENTS/INFLUENCERS**

**(First Look Placemats - 1 per child)**

Hand out placemats to parents as they arrive. Encourage parents/influencers to review the Preschool lesson with their child this week.