

Judges 6 Lessons or Principles:

1. Israel's sin made all their hard work profitless. Sin robs us of what we work hard to gain, and that is a relationship with God.

Israel's sin made all their hard work profitless. All their produce and livestock were stolen after they worked hard to bring it to fruition. Sin does this; it robs us of what we work hard to gain. There are many accomplished men who lose everything in life because they won't stop their sin. All is lost in order to gain what, in retrospect, seems like nothing.

2. Prayer should be our first resource, not our last resort. After the long season of humiliation, fruitless labor, poverty, and domination by an oppressive power, Israel finally **cried out to the LORD.** Prayer was their *last resort* instead of their *first resource*.
3. Obedience to God's Word is tantamount to maintaining a right relationship with Him. **But you have not obeyed My voice:** God sent this messenger to tell them where the real problem was. It wasn't that the Midianites were so strong; it was that Israel was so disobedient.
4. Don't underestimate the power of God and His ability to use the small and the weak to do great things. He can use you too!
5. Know this, when God sends you to do a task, God is with you also. **Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat the Midianites as one man:** God's assurance to Gideon was not to build up his self confidence, but to assure him that God was indeed with him. Gideon did not need more self-confidence, he needed more God-confidence.
 - i. It is important to know that God has sent us but it is even greater to know that He is **with** us. This was the same

assurance God gave to Moses (Exodus 3:12) and that Jesus gave all believers (Matthew 28:20).

6. God's love for you is demonstrated with His sacrifice on the cross, but it is okay to expect some confirmation in things not specifically detailed in God's Word, look for this confirmation in many ways. Gideon received his confirmation in three miracles, ours may not be in miracles, they may be through the spoken word of a friend or the words of a song.
7. God is patient, merciful and gracious to us even though we might be lacking in faith and trust of Him. Remember how Gideon ask for a sign and God performed a miracle for him, then he came back and asked for second and even a third sign, yet God was gracious to him.