

# I'm in the Lord's Army



Lesson 10

## Using Unusual Weapons

**Theme:** Faith — Trusting in God's power

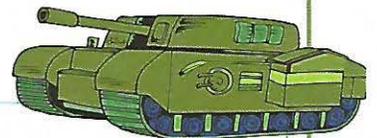
### Memory Verse

“In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.”  
Judges 17:6

### Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Judges 4:1-10  
Friday Judges 4:11-23  
Saturday Judges 6:1-18  
Monday Judges 6:28-7:8  
Tuesday Judges 7:9-22; 8:28-35

**G**od raised up judges to deliver and lead Israel. A judge would serve as the commander of Israel's army and would also lead Israel to follow God. One commander, Gideon, took time to learn about his enemy. This helped him lead the army of the Lord into battle and defeat the Midianites. A Canaanite commander, Sisera, did not know about his enemy, and it cost him his life.



### Judges 4:1-10

Because of the disobedience of the Israelites, God allowed an enemy king named \_\_\_\_\_ to defeat them.

The commander of this Canaanite king's army was named \_\_\_\_\_.

True or False? All judges of Israel were men.

### The Cycle Continues

Do you remember the cycle we learned in the last lesson? God's people forgot God and disobeyed Him, and God allowed an enemy to defeat them.



### Judges 4:11-23

True or False?

Sisera, commander of the Canaanite army, was killed by a woman.

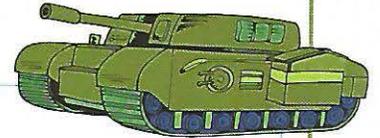
The Israelites cried out to God, and God raised up a judge to deliver them. Judges led Israel to defeat their enemies, and the people served God again. Their obedience usually lasted only a short time, and the people started worshipping idols again.

### More Judges Lead Israel

After the judge Ehud died, the people of God turned to idols again. God was angry with his people and let Jabin, a king of Canaan, defeat them. The commander of Jabin's army was Sisera.

God sent a woman named Deborah to be the judge to deliver His people. Deborah is the only woman judge we read about in the Old Testament. Deborah worked together with Barak, a commander of the Israelite army, to defeat Sisera's army. Once again God helped His people, and Sisera ran away from the army of Israel.

Sisera stopped at the tent of Jael, a woman he thought was on his side. Sisera was tired from the battle and wanted to rest. He did not take time to know if Jael was an enemy or a friend. While Sisera was sleeping in the tent, Jael killed him. Sisera was an evil man, and this was God's way of punishing him. But we also learn from Sisera that we must know about our enemy. If Sisera had known that Jael was his enemy, he would never have stopped at her tent.



### Judges 6:1-18

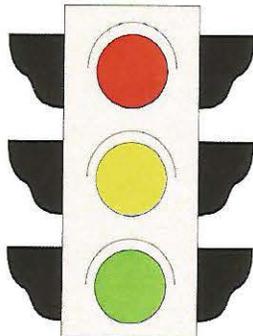
Once again the children of Israel disobeyed God. This time, God allowed their enemies, the \_\_\_\_\_, to defeat them.

The angel of the Lord appeared to \_\_\_\_\_ to tell him to deliver Israel from their enemies.

### God Delivers His People

Under Deborah's leadership, Israel obeyed God for forty years. But once again the Israelites left God to follow idols. God was angry with His people and allowed the

I realize when the devil is tempting me.



Put an X in the light that best describes you.

**Red** — rarely

**Yellow** — sometimes

**Green** — usually



### Judges 6:28-7:8

God was angry that the children of Israel worshiped idols. He told Gideon to tear down the altar of \_\_\_\_\_, the idol most of the Canaanites worshiped.

How many soldiers were in Gideon's army when he went to battle?

Midianites to defeat them. Israel cried out to God, and God heard their cry. He sent an angel to Gideon to call him to be a judge for Israel. God taught Gideon to trust Him and used Gideon to deliver His people from their enemies.

Gideon called up a large army to attack the Midianites. God wanted the people to know that He was fighting for them, and they could not save themselves. God told Gideon to send all

the troops home except for 300 soldiers.

On the night of the battle, Gideon sneaked into the camp of the Midianites and listened to the soldiers talking. He heard some of them say they believed God would help Gideon defeat them. When Gideon left the enemy camp, he knew God was on his side, and that he could lead his people to win the battle.

Gideon took his 300 soldiers and surrounded the Midianite camp that night. The soldiers blew trumpets, smashed pitchers, held up torches, and shouted at the enemy. These actions, with God's help, confused

the enemy; and the Midianites began fighting each other. Because God helped them, the Israelites easily defeated the army of Midian.

### Knowing the Enemy

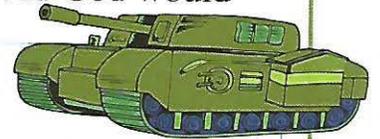
Gideon took time to learn what his enemy was thinking, and this helped him win the battle. Sisera, the commander we read about earlier, did not know his enemy and it cost him his life.

God tells us in the Bible that Satan is our enemy (1 Peter 5:8). He roams around like a roaring lion looking for something to eat. Satan will pounce on us if we are not careful. In His Word, God tells us about our enemy Satan and how, with God's help, we can defeat him.

### Judges 7:9-22; 8:28-35

Each of the men in Gideon's army carried a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.

True or False? Israel was able to defeat the army of the Midianites because Gideon had more soldiers.



## Think About It. . .



Your enemies are not necessarily those who may hurt your feelings or make you angry. Our real enemies are those who try to influence us to think and behave badly. From the following list, name something you have trouble with

- selfishness
- arguing with people in authority such as your parents or teachers
- sneaking to do something you know you're not supposed to do
- using bad language

Name two things your “enemies” might do to influence you to do wrong?

Name two things your “friends” might do to influence you to do right?



## Operation Bible Facts

Which books of the Old Testament are about kings ruling Israel and focus on the temple?

Write the names of the twelve sons of Jacob?

On a map inside the back cover, locate the United Kingdom and the Twelve Tribes. Before you look at the map, write the names of the Southern and Northern Kingdoms.