

**BIG BIBLE HEROES**

**AUTUMN: WEEK 7**



**STORY**

**Gideon is courageous**  
Judges 6

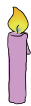
**LEARNING FOCUS**

**God is strong**

**VALUE LINK**

**Courage (being brave)**  
**and Justice (fairness)**

**IN THE BOX**  
WORSHIP CLOTH  
JACK (PUPPET)  
CHILDREN'S BIBLE  
**Story props:**  
2 FIGURES, A SHEEP, A COW AND  
A HORSE, A TORCH (OR PAPER FLAME  
TORCH), A CARDBOARD TUBE TRUMPET



**WELCOME - Hello Time**

Hello everyone.

*Open the box, take out the worship cloth, shake it out dramatically and spread it carefully at the centre of the circle, while singing:*

(Tune: Here we go round the mulberry bush)  
Here is the cloth for worship time,  
Let's all be still for worship time,  
Here is the cloth for worship time,  
What will we learn today?



Let's find Jack and sing our Welcome Song. *Take Jack out of the box and sing the song.*

(Tune: The wheels on the bus)  
Welcome everyone and say hello,  
Say hello, say hello.  
Welcome everyone and say hello,  
I'm glad you came.

What are we going to learn today Jack? *Jack whispers to you.*

We are going to learn how Gideon put his trust in God and so can we, because God is strong. Jack has brought his favourite book, the Bible.

*Jack helps to take the Bible out of the box. Show the Bible to the children and place it on the cloth. Meanwhile everyone sings:*

(Tune: Frere Jacques)  
Here's the Bible, here's the Bible.  
A special book, a special book.  
What's inside it? What's inside it?  
Let's take a look, let's take a look.

JUSTICE  
(FAIRNESS)

COURAGE  
(BEING BRAVE)



## LEARN - Story Time

### Gideon is courageous

*Tell the story using the story props.*

God is strong and he can help us. Our Big Bible Hero today learned to trust God when he felt afraid and didn't know what to do. God helped him to have **courage**, to be **brave**.



The Big Bible Hero was called Gideon. He was a farmer. *(Take out figure and animals)*

Where Gideon lived all the people were very worried because some big bullies kept taking things from them. This wasn't **fair**, was it? The bullies took their sheep, they took their cows, they took their horses and donkeys. They even took the food growing on the land; the wheat and fruit and vegetables.

"This is terrible," the people said to one another, "What can we do? How can we stop the bullies? They are so much stronger than us."

One day Gideon was sitting under a tree on his farm, trying to hide from the bullies and thinking about how **unfair** everything was, when suddenly he realised that standing next to him was an angel, a messenger from God.

*(Take out figure)*

The angel said, "Gideon, God is sending you to chase away the bullies so that everyone can live peacefully again."

"What?" said Gideon, "I can't do that! I'm not strong enough and I've never done anything **brave** like that before." But God said .....

*"Gideon, don't be afraid  
You can trust in me.  
I'll be with you and make you **brave**,  
You just wait and see."*

Gideon wasn't sure. He still felt nervous. "Can I do this? Will God really be with me?" he wondered.

But at last he decided to trust God. He did just as God told him and gathered some friends together. One night they went out carrying torches and loud trumpets. *(Take out torch and trumpet and encourage children to join in actions)* They waved the torches and blew the trumpets as hard as they could. They gave those bullies such a fright that they ran away and didn't come back.

The people were so pleased. "Hooray! Well done, Gideon," they said, "You are so strong and **brave**." But, Gideon said .....

*"It's God who's strong,  
It's God who helped me through.  
He was with me and made me **brave**,  
And he can help you too."*

JUSTICE  
(FAIRNESS)

COURAGE  
(BEING BRAVE)



## REFLECT - Thinking Time

Can anyone remember what Jack likes to do when he's looked at the Bible? He likes to have some thinking time. *(Put finger on chin)* Let's sing the song.



*(Tune: Here we go round the mulberry bush)*

Now we're ready for thinking time, *(point to head)*

Thinking time, thinking time. *(point to head)*

Now we're ready for thinking time, *(point to head)*

What have we learned today? *(put finger on chin)*



We have been learning about how when he trusted God, Gideon was able to pluck up the **courage** to chase away the bullies.

*Pretend that Jack is whispering in your ear.*

Jack says sometimes he feels worried when things go wrong, just like Gideon did. It's so good to remember that God is strong and will help us. I wonder if you can think of things that sometimes make you worried, that you could talk to God about.

Let's all have a quiet moment to think... *Pause, and then hear the children's ideas.*



## RESPOND - Prayer Time

Now we're going to get ready to talk to God. Let's sing.



*(Tune: Twinkle, twinkle little star)*

We know God is always there, *(point up)*

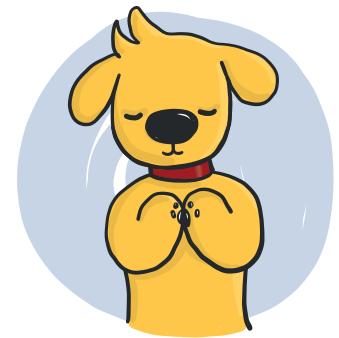
Now it's time to say a prayer. *(hands together)*

Stretch hands wide then give a clap, *(as sung)*

Fold them safely in your lap. *(as sung)*

We know God is always there, *(point up)*

Now it's time to say a prayer. *(hands together and close eyes)*



Thank you God, that you are strong and we can trust you. Please help us to be **brave** about things that make us feel worried. Amen

## Goodbye Time

We've had fun with Jack but he's sleepy now and needs to go back in his box. We'll see him again soon.

*The children help you to put away the Bible and props while chatting together about what has been learnt. As you sing Jack waves goodbye to the children.*



*(Tune: first two lines of Baa Baa Black sheep repeated.)*

Goodbye everyone, wave goodbye to Jack,

We've had fun and he'll be back. *(repeat twice)*

*Jack goes back in his box.*



## EXPLORE TOGETHER

*Activities to do as you talk further about the story and the linked value.*



Make a torch with ice cream cones and some tissue paper.



Decorate a cardboard tube trumpet and add buttons or stickers.



Free play with farm animals.



Play a game with the trumpets or some shakers. Children sit very still until you say "Gideon", then they make a noise with the instruments.

JUSTICE  
(FAIRNESS)

COURAGE  
(BEING BRAVE)