

AN UNLIKELY SOLDIER

Judges 6-7

**God equips and uses uniquely unqualified men and women
to serve as soldiers in His army.**

I. THE RECRUIT

A. DISRESPECTFUL

1. Questioning God's ways and condemning God's actions (6:13)
2. Instead of being full of faith, Gideon is full of questions that discount and dishonor God

B. FEARFUL

1. Of his idolatrous family and friends (6:25-27)
2. To go into the enemy camp (7:9-11)

C. DOUBTFUL

1. Seeking a sign from God's messenger (6:17)
2. Seeking assurance of God's message (6:36-40)

II. THE BOOT CAMP

A. KNOW GOD (6:11-24)

1. His Presence (12)
 - When Gideon was not confident (11)
2. His Plan (14)
 - When Gideon was not committed (13)
3. His Persistence (16)
 - When Gideon was not qualified (15)
4. His Patience (18b)
 - When Gideon was not convinced (17)
5. His Promise (23)
 - When Gideon was not comfortable (22)

B. OBEY GOD (6:25-32)

1. God's command (25-26)
 - Deal with the nearby idols first
2. Gideon's action (27)
 - Compliant though not courageous
3. The city's hostility (28-30)
 - Kill Gideon!
4. Joash's challenge (31-32)
 - Let Baal contend for himself

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C. SERVE GOD (6:33-7:25)

1. Gathering an army (6:33-35)
 - a. Gideon was spiritually enabled (34)
 - b. He was surprisingly effective (34-35)
2. Commanding the army (7:15b)
 - Charge!
3. Inspiring His army (7:20-21)
 - a. Their cry (21) > “A sword for the Lord and for Gideon”
 - b. Their confidence (22) > Standing their ground and watching God work

III. THE WARRIOR

A. FAITHFUL (7:1-8)

1. Dismissing the fearful (1-3)
2. Sending away the careless (4-8)

B. SUCCESSFUL (7:22-25)

1. The enemy slaughter themselves (22)
2. The Midianites are pursued by fresh Israeli soldiers (23)
3. The men of Ephraim block the enemies escape routes (24)
4. Two Midianite captains are captured and killed (25)

C. WORSHIPFUL

1. Building an altar (6:24)
 - The Lord is at peace with me
2. Giving an burnt offering (6:26-28)
 - As God had said (26)
3. Bowing in reverence (7:15a)
 - After hearing a dream and its interpretation (7:13-14)

CONCLUSION:

God can use weaklings and wimps as warriors!

- He can groom and grow us into great men and women of God

Might we:

1. Enlist in His army
2. Engage in His training
3. Enjoy His victories

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