

# Running Into The Battle (Part 2 – Changing Our Perspective)

Sunday, August 16, 2026  
10:30 AM

A couple of weeks ago I preached a message about running into the battle based on David's battle with Goliath in 1 Samuel 17

I said that I felt that the Holy Spirit wanted to speak fresh encouragement and breath new empowerment into our lives give us the strength, and faith to do what David did - run into the battle - engage, fight, and see the Philistines and the Goliath's that we face in our lives defeated.

Today I want to follow up and build on that message by looking at some more principles from a different battle that help us run into our own battles

Here's what we talked about a couple of weeks ago

Let your Strength be renewed by what The Father has provided for you  
Strengthen yourself in the Lord  
Repeat the promises of victory  
Don't be discouraged by other people's fear or assessments of you  
Recount the victories that God has already done through you  
Don't try to use other people's techniques  
Move forward in faith rather than stand still in fear  
Magnify the strength of our God not the size of The giant  
Run to the battle not away from it  
Finish the battle

Today I want to take a look at Gideon and the battle he faced. Sometimes, before we are ready to run into the battle, we need a change in our perspective

**Key Text:**

**Judges 6:14, 16**

"The Lord turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?""

The Lord answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."

"I want you to run into this battle"

## CHANGING OUR PERSPECTIVE

### God Cares for YOU

The first thing that jumps out at me in this passage is how much God cares for the Israelites. Even though this particular battle, is because of their sin and disobedience to God; yet he shows up when they cry out for him. Who does that? Only someone who cares.

Sometimes our battles are of our own making, sometimes they are not. However, even when those battles are of our own making, that doesn't mean that God doesn't care about us anymore.

#### **Judges 6:13**

““Pardon me, my Lord,” Gideon replied, “but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?’ But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian.””

The enemy wants our perspective to be that of Gideons. “Lord, if you are with us if you cared about us, then this wouldn't be happening to us” It is the same perspective the disciples have when they were on the boat, and the storm came upon them, and they were all afraid that they were going to die. “Lord, don't you care if we drown?”

This is what the enemy wants is to believe, and sometimes he uses the just consequences of our own sinfulness as proof that God doesn't care about us. It reminds me of when children get mad because they are punished for doing something wrong. “you don't love me anymore.” of course nothing could be further from the truth.  
of course nothing could be further from the truth.

Before we are ready to run into the battle, our perspective must change from that of God doesn't love me to knowing how much he really does. This makes all the difference

Notice my emphasis on this point. It is not just that God cares but that He cares about me.

#### **Judges 6:23-24**

<sup>23</sup> But the LORD said to him, “Peace! Do not be afraid. You are not going to die.”

<sup>24</sup> So Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and called it The LORD Is Peace. To this day it stands in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

## God has a PLAN

### **Judges 6:14**

“The Lord turned to him and said, “Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?””

### **Judges 6:16**

The Lord answered, “I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive.”

As our perspective changes in regards to God’s care, we need to allow that shift to continue until we understand that not only does he care, He has a plan. God doesn’t just want us to just run haphazardly into the battles of our lives. He wants us to understand that from the beginning he has had a plan for our victory. It’s important that we believe that and that we begin to seek God for what that plan is.

God begin to reveal his plan for this battle to Gideon. He told him that he would save Israel through him. Next he gave him directions for what he wanted to do regarding the idols and his father’s household. Later on, he would reveal even more details of this plan as he told Gideon to call out the number of men that were with him, as he used the prophetic dream and the revelation of that dream to get in to build his faith, he showed him what to do to fight and win this battle.

Remember Gods plans may not make sense to us

### **Judges 6:15**

““Pardon me, my Lord,” Gideon replied, “but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.””

### **Isaiah 55:8-9**

““For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

The Battle always begins by CRYING OUT TO GOD for Help

### **Judges 6:6**

<sup>6</sup>Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the LORD for help.

Once our perspectives in these areas have changed, and many times, even before; the first step that we need to make in order to run into the battle is to cry out to God for help

Many times we will suffer and never cry out. Sometimes we cry out once or in the beginning, but then cease to do so. Maybe our perspective is that we tried that and it didn't work so why should I keep trying? Maybe our perspective is that God already knows so why should I tell him again?

### **Psalms 121:1-2**

"I lift up my eyes to the mountains— where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth."

### **Luke 18:1-8**

"Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' "For some time he refused. But finally he said to himself, 'Even though I don't fear God or care what people think, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won't eventually come and attack me!'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

In still other instances we cry out to everyone and everything except God, looking for the answers we need.

## **OBEDIENCE and REPENTANCE are KEYS to our Victory**

### **Judges 6:7-10**

"When the Israelites cried out to the Lord because of Midian, he sent them a prophet, who said, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: I brought you up out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians. And I delivered you from the hand of all your oppressors; I drove them out before you and gave you their land. I said to you, 'I am the Lord your God; do not worship the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you live.' But you have not listened to me."

## Don't Settle for INCOMPLETE Man-made Versions of Victory

### **Judges 6:11**

“The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites.”

Gideon found a type of victory by threshing the wheat in a wine press to keep from being out in the open where the mid nights could see him and steal what he had. So often we settle for a man-made type of victory that is not what God wants for our lives in judges chapter 1 will see a detailed breakdown of the tribes and how they either conquered the enemies, they were in the land and drove them out as they were told I got to do or they failed to do so and sold for a lesser form of victory subjugating the enemy to force labor, or in some situations, just allowing them to live among them.

God CALLS OUT THE WARRIOR in us.

### **Judges 6:12**

“When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.””

Before you run into the battle, TEAR DOWN ALL THE IDOLS in your household

### **Judges 6:25-26**

<sup>25</sup> That same night the LORD said to him, “Take the second bull from your father’s herd, the one seven years old. Tear down your father’s altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole<sup>[c]</sup> beside it. <sup>26</sup> Then build a proper kind of<sup>[d]</sup> altar to the LORD your God on the top of this height. Using the wood of the Asherah pole that you cut down, offer the second bull as a burnt offering.”

Isn't it interesting that God starts with Gideons household before he allows him to Run into battle with the Midianites

Just like Achan's hidden sin in his tent, caused the Israelites to lose their next battle so when we Leave hidden sin unaddressed in our lives, It will cause us to be ineffective in the battles we attempt to fight.