

WEEK 3

BIBLE LESSON



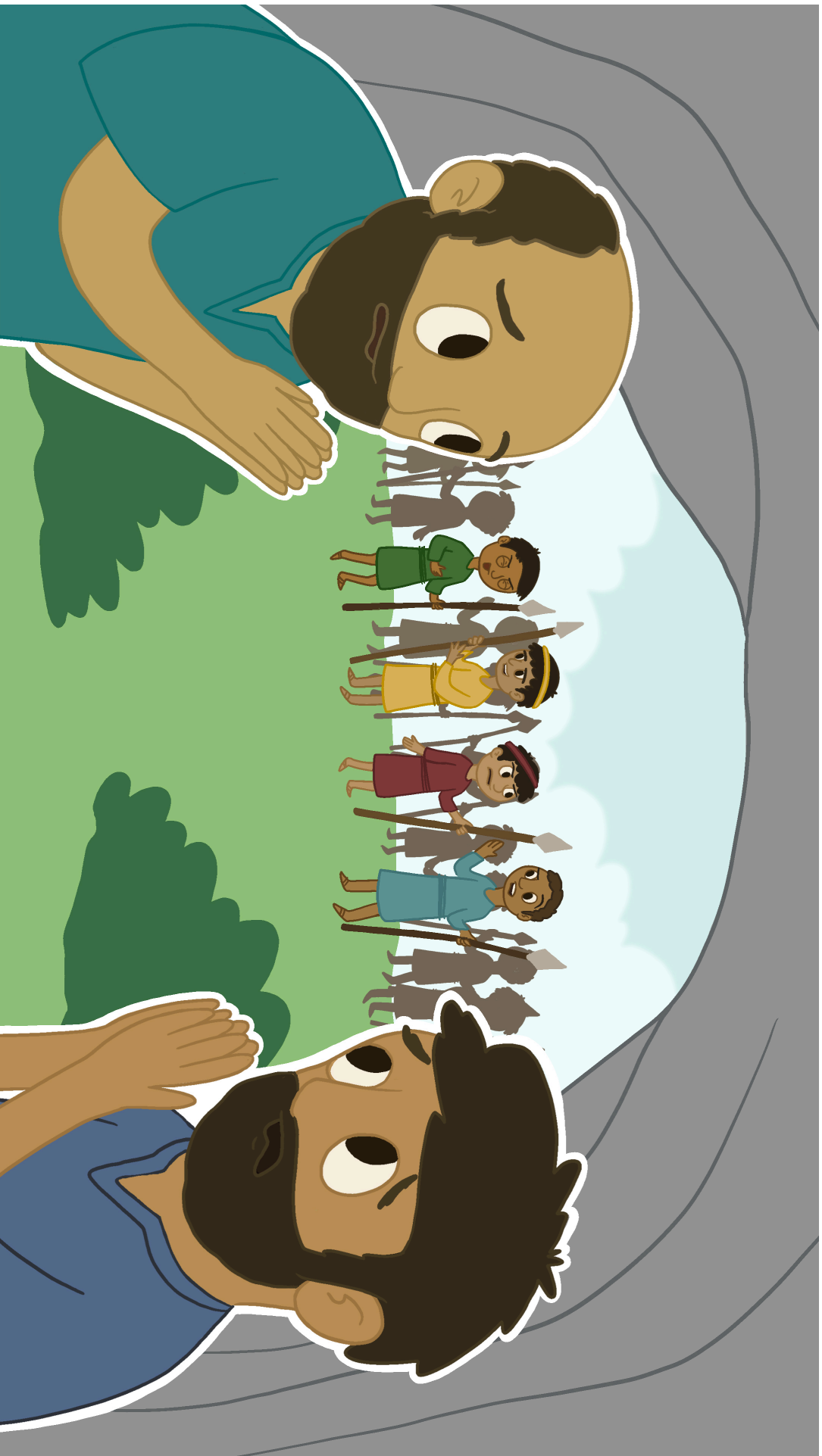
Need to Know: *Put on the Armor of Godliness* **Bible Story:** *Gideon*
(Judges 6:1-32)

Supplies: Bible Story Picture Cards (will need to print out)

1. **SAY:** *There's a story in the Bible that helps us see why we need to put on the armor of godliness every day. I'm going to lay out all of our Bible story pictures in front of you, and then you're going to close your eyes while I take one away. We'll see if you can guess which picture I removed!*
2. LAY all **Bible Story Cards** picture side up in front of the kids. Then TELL kids to close their eyes. REMOVE the **Bible Story Card** with the number one on it, and HOLD it so kids can't see the picture. Then HAVE kids open their eyes and guess which picture is missing. Once they've guessed, SHOW them the picture and READ it to the group.

NOTE: If you have a printer that can print duplex, then the bible story words can be printed on the back of each picture. If you don't, just print the story pages separately that go with each picture card and read from them.

3. REPEAT step two with the remaining **Bible Story Cards** in number order. Afterwards, ASK:
 - ***What did God do for Gideon when he was scared?*** (Protected his heart and gave him the power to do what was right)
 - ***What piece of armor has God given us to protect our hearts?*** (The Armor of Godliness) ***That's right! Knowing that God is with us and protecting us gives us the power to do what's right!***



Gideon

Judges 6:1-32

The Israelites had disobeyed God, so God allowed their enemies, the Midianites (pronounced: Mih-dih-uh-nites), to come and take over their land. The Israelites were so scared that they hid in caves! While they were hiding, they prayed and cried out to God for help.



God heard their prayers and sent an angel to talk to an Israelite named Gideon. Let me hear you say, “Gideon.” (Kids say, “Gideon.”)

The angel said to Gideon, “Mighty warrior, the Lord is with you!”

But Gideon said, “You say the Lord is with us. Then why has all of this happened?” Then the angel told him, “You are strong. Go and save Israel.”

In his heart, Gideon didn't feel strong or important enough to do what God was telling Him to do, but God promised to be with him and help him.



Later that night, God gave Gideon these instructions: Tear down the altar that people use to worship the false god named Baal (pronounced: bail), and cut down the pole that people use to worship the false God, Asherah (pronounced: Ash-uh-ruh).

God told Gideon to build the right kind of altar where people could worship Him, the one true God. Even though Gideon was scared, he believed that God would protect him and that he could do the right thing.



Gideon waited until it was dark. Then he went and did exactly what God told him to do. When everyone woke up the next morning, they could not believe their eyes! The altar to Baal was destroyed and the Asherah pole was cut down. In its place was a new altar for worshipping the one true God!

God gave Gideon the power he needed to do what was right, even when his heart was scared.