

# Judges *There was no King in Israel*

## 3. Learning to lead: Gideon *Judges 6.1-8.35*

**Aim:** To get the whole group to engage with the entirety of Gideon's story, to think about the joys and challenges of leadership and God's part in encouraging us when he has asked us to do something beyond our capacity.

### To start with:

When has God asked you to do something that felt like a huge challenge or battle for you? What happened?

### Engaging with the text:

Because his story is long we tend to reflect on the life of Gideon in chunks rather than the whole picture and so often miss bits of it out. This study will take in the whole story. It has been printed out on the attached sheets as a 'script' with parts highlighted for people to read. There are three main characters and a number of smaller 'parts'. Allocate people parts and then read the story as a 'play' (people could play more than one of the italicised smaller parts if necessary.)

When you have read it through you might like to discuss some of the following questions:

1. Which bits of this story were you familiar/unfamiliar with?
2. What strikes/surprises you about this story?

3. What does it tell us about:
  - a. God?
  - b. God's people Israel?
  - c. Leading God's people?
4. What part of this story is most personally challenging/encouraging for you?