



GIDEON'S ARMY

¹ Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him rose early and encamped beside the well of Harod, so that the camp of the Midianites was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh in the valley.

² And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

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hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' ³ Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.' " And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

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⁴ But the LORD said to Gideon, "The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, 'This one shall not go with you,' the same shall not go."

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

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⁵ So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Everyone who laps from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink." ⁶ And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men;

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

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but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water.

⁷ Then the LORD said to Gideon, "By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place."

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

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⁸ So the people took provisions and their trumpets in their hands. And he sent away all the rest of Israel, every man to his tent, and retained those three hundred men. Now the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

Judges 7:1-8 (NKJV)

WHAT WAS GOD LOOKING FOR?

An army with a culture of HUMILITY (living for God's glory) instead of haughtiness (living for self).

God's kingdom is about:

1. A choice to be made (FAITH or fear).
2. A test to be passed (SURRENDER or selfishness).

The same applies to relationships in His kingdom.

WHAT IS GOD LOOKING FOR IN OUR CHURCH?

- K = KING as the head and focus.
- F = FAITH in our King and trusting one another.
- A = ACCOUNTABILITY through transparency.
- M = MUTUAL encouragement and celebration.
- I = INCLUSIVITY and invitation.
- L = LAYING down of self.
- Y = YOU above me.

PERFECT LOVE MAKES US A KINGDOM FAMILY

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

John 13:34-35 (NKJV)

PERFECT LOVE MAKES US A KINGDOM FAMILY

⁷ But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.

⁸ And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "LOVE WILL COVER A MULTITUDE OF SINS."

1 Peter 4:7-8 (NKJV)

PERFECT LOVE MAKES US A KINGDOM FAMILY

¹² No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, God abides in us, and His love has been perfected in us.

¹⁸ There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

1 John 4:12,18 (NKJV)