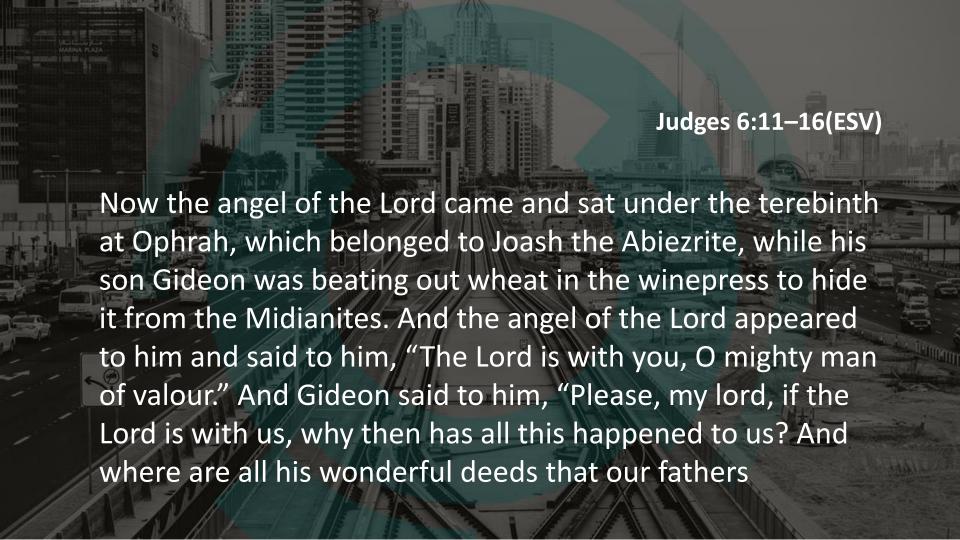


would come up against them. They would encamp against them and devour the produce of the land, as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel and no sheep or ox or donkey. For they would come up with their livestock and their tents; they would come like locusts in number—both they and their camels could not be counted—so that they laid waste the land as they came in. And Israel was brought very low because of Midian. And the people of Israel cried out for help to the Lord. When the people of Israel cried out to the Lord on account of the Midianites, the Lord sent a prophet to the people of Israel. And he said to them, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I led you up from Egypt and brought you out of the house of slavery. And I delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of all who oppressed you, and drove them out before you and gave you their land. And I said to you, 'I am the Lord your God; you shall not fear the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell.' But you have not obeyed my voice."





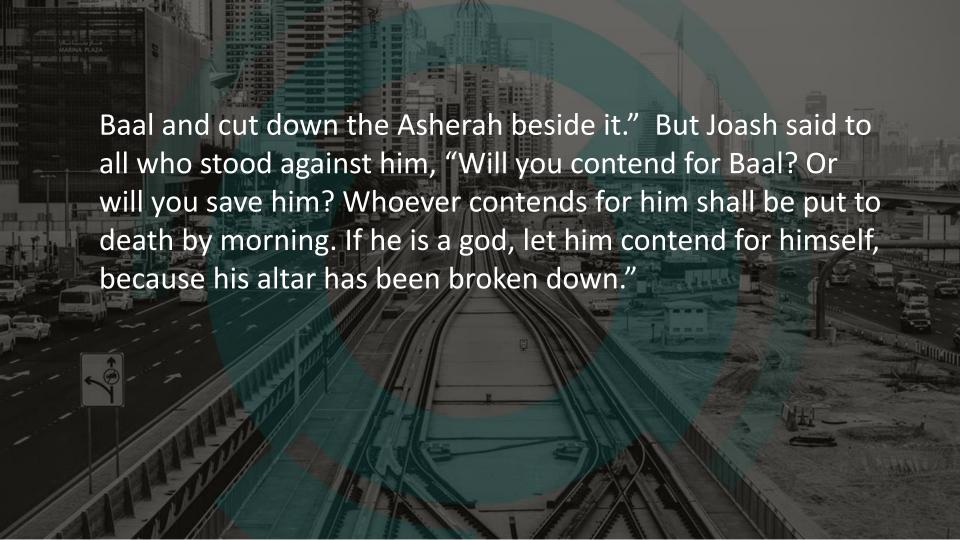
recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?' But now the Lord has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." And the Lord turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." And the Lord said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man."



That night the Lord said to him, "Take your father's bull, and

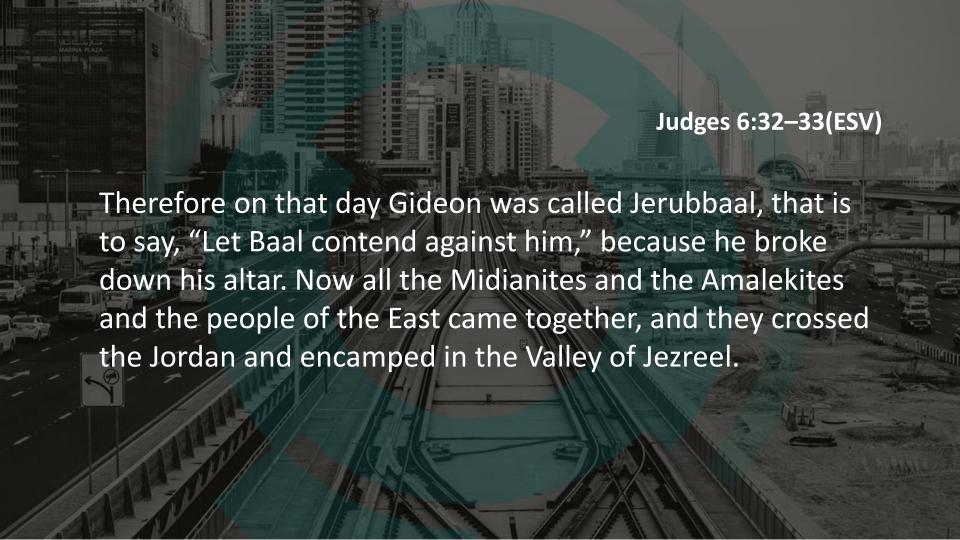
the second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of the stronghold here, with stones laid in due order. Then take the second bull and offer it as a burnt offering with the wood of the Asherah that you shall cut down." So Gideon took ten men of his servants and did as the Lord had told

him. But because he was too afraid of his family and the men of the town to do it by day, he did it by night. When the men of the town rose early in the morning, behold, the altar of Baal was broken down, and the Asherah beside it was cut down, and the second bull was offered on the altar that had been built. And they said to one another, "Who has done this thing?" And after they had searched and inquired, they said, "Gideon the son of Joash has done this thing." Then the men of the town said to Joash, "Bring out your son, that he may die, for he has broken down the altar of











Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common... And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day...

Weekly small group notes from Sunday Sermon (Duration - 1 to 1.5hrs)

- 1. Welcome: Introduce SG to visitors and ask group to share on the following: What is the most fearful thing that you have overcome in your life?
- 2. Worship together: 1 or 2 Worship Songs / open SG in prayer asking the Father to reveal to us how to overcome fear in following Him? SG Questions: (let 2 or 3 people answer a specific question and give everyone a turn)
- a) The Condition: Read Judges 6:1-10. Why could God not intervene In Israel's predicament?
 b) The Call: Judges 6:11-16. Would you say anyone is disqualified to be used by God to bring restoration to a situation/people group/city/nation?
 - c) The first step: Read Judges 6:25-27. What did Gideon have to deal with before God could release Him into His greater corporate calling?
 - d) Quote: Sometimes we need get back to what we stopped doing to get back what we lost... 1) When we look at the live of Jesus or the church in Acts what do we need to do again? 2) And what worldly fear do you personally need to replace with the fear of God. Examples: Fear of Failure (boss, colleagues, career), disappointing family members (unbiblical expectations, call of God), Fear of poverty (pursuing wrong career, unethical business ventures, lying to get ahead) etc. etc.
- 4. Remind the SG that we can exchange our fears for the fear of God and His inheritance will always be much better than our best plans/the ways of the world/fear. Choose to trust Him in faith
- Turn together in groups of 2 (preferably accountability partners): Confess to God another any fear you might have that you want to deal with and replace with obedient action to conquer it (based on fearing God/Word)