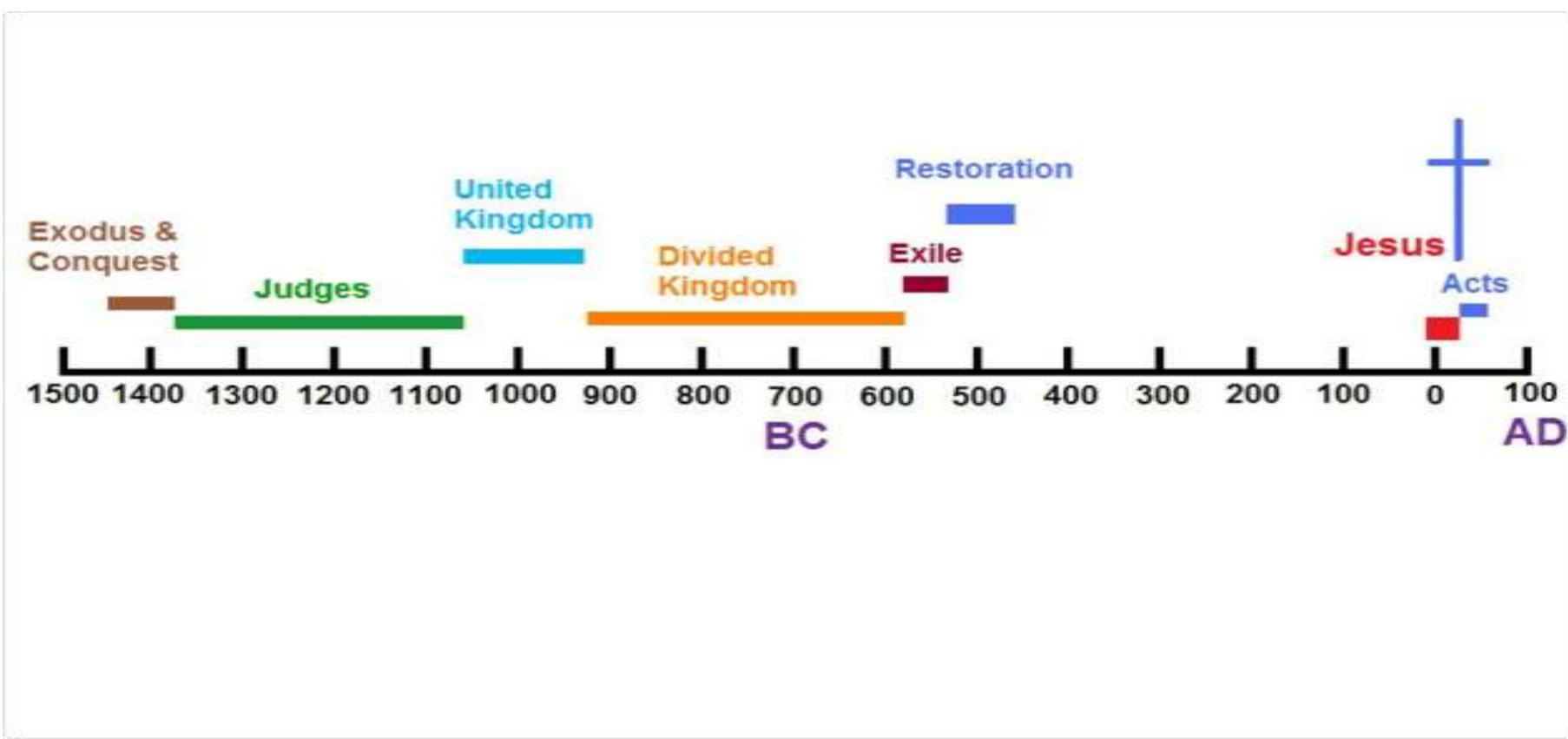


THE STORY OF

GIDEON



HEROES OF THE FAITH SERIES



1 *The Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the Midianites. **2** Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves and strongholds. **3** Whenever the Israelites planted their crops, the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples invaded the country. Judges 6:1-3*



4They camped on the land and ruined the crops all the way to Gaza and did not spare a living thing for Israel, neither sheep nor cattle nor donkeys.

5They came up with their livestock and their tents like swarms of locusts. It was impossible to count them or their camels; they invaded the land to ravage it. Judges 6:4-5



6Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the Lord for help.

7When the Israelites cried out to the Lord because of Midian, **8**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. **9**I rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians. Judges 6:6-9



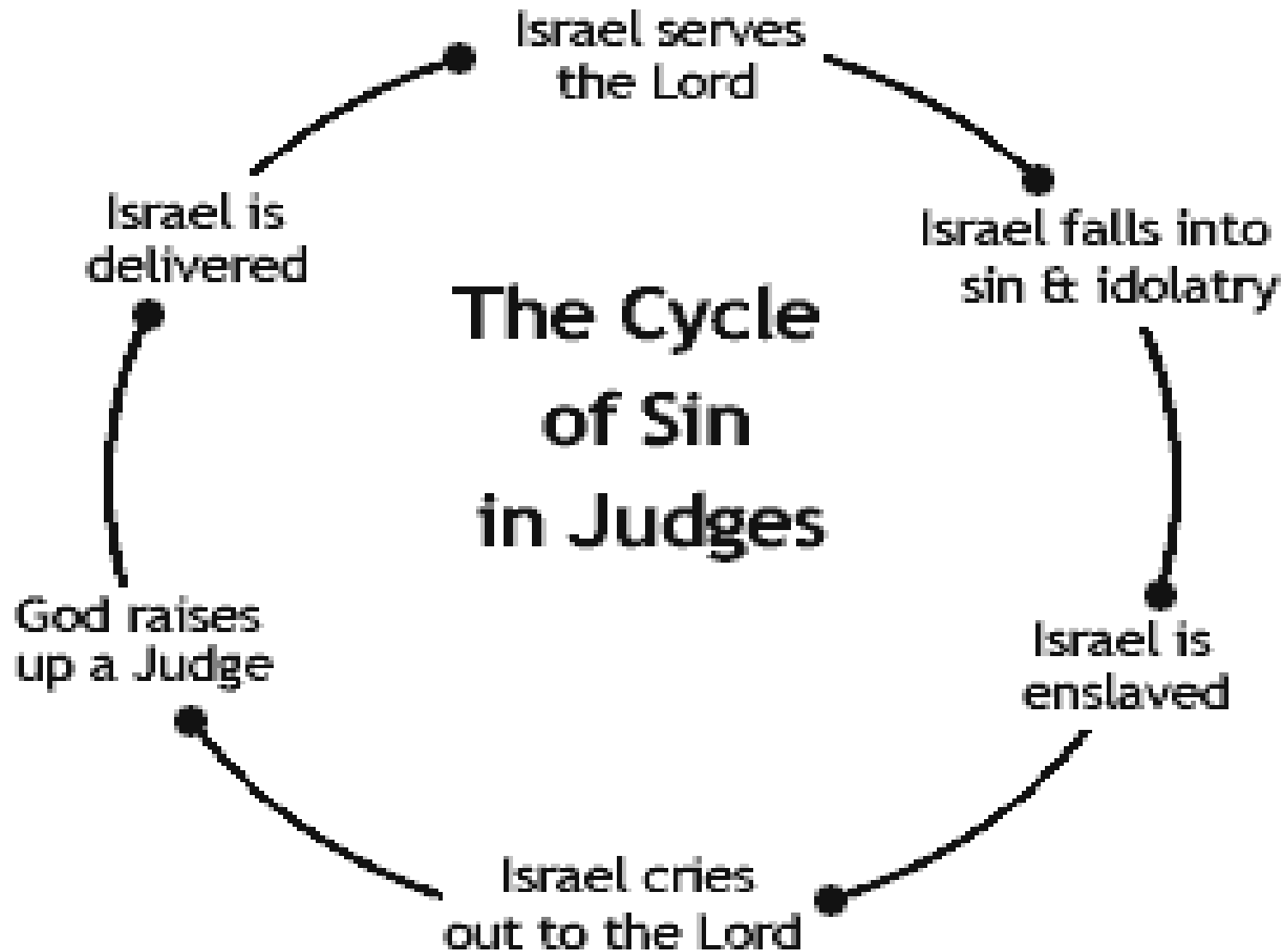
*And I delivered you from the hand of
all your oppressors; I drove them out
before you and gave you their land.*

***10**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.”*

Judges 6:9-10



The Cycle of Sin in Judges



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. **12** When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, “The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.”*
Judges 6:11-12



**1. GOD SAW IN HIM
MUCH MORE THAN
HE SAW IN HIMSELF**

Judges 6:11-12



4But because of his great love for us,
God, who is rich in mercy, **5**made us
alive with Christ even when we were
dead in transgressions—it is by
grace you have been saved.

Ephesians 2:4-5



6 And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, **7** in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. *Ephesians 2:6-7*



Its not about learning to avoid sin,
but learning how to live righteous
- Graham Cook

What is true to you is often not
TRUTH to God



2. IMMEDIATELY OBEDIENT

– Judges 6:25-35



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3. FELT UNQUALIFIED

“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.” Judges 6:13



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?”*

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

Judges 6:14-16



It's one thing to know who God is to you –
it's a whole other thing to know who you
are to you!

There is a difference between what is true
and THE TRUTH



It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God. He has enabled us to be ministers of his new covenant – 2 Corinthians 3:5-6



4. PUT OUT A FLEECE

– Judges 6:36-40



When trying to discern God's will

Listen to the Holy Spirit – John 16:13

Align with the Word of God – 2 Timothy 3:16

Ask God for confirmations – Judges 6:36-40

Seek the counsel of the wise – Pr. 15:22



5. TRUSTED GOD'S MATH

– Judges 7:1-8

The LORD said to Gideon, “You have too many warriors with you. If I let all of you fight the Midianites, the Israelites will boast to me that they saved themselves by their own strength. Judges 7:2



GOD'S MATH

$$32,000 - 22,000 - 9700 = 300$$

300 vs. 120,000



Practical application questions:

What area of your life is God asking for immediate obedience?

What does God say about you?

How can your feelings of being unqualified strengthen your trust in God?



Practical application questions:

Which area of your life where to you need God's direction specifically?

How will trusting God's math help your next victory?

What is your takeaway today?



THE STORY OF

GIDEON



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