

Lesson 2 Focus:

God can use our weakness to show His power.

Lesson 2 Bible Basis:

Judges 7

Lesson 2 Memory Verse:

But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

-1 Corinthians 1:27

Students will watch a real-life rescue as they explore how they can surrender their weaknesses to God so He can show His power through us.

Materials:

- Internet access
 - > What are things you feel strong doing? Why? (Answers might include: I'm good in school, it's easy for me; singing, I sing in church and in the school choir; soccer, I really like it, etc.)
 - > What are things about you that you feel show weakness? Why? (Answers: Math, numbers are hard for me to understand; hitting the baseball out of the infield, I don't seem to have enough strength, etc.)

We all have strengths and weaknesses. Not everyone is good at everything, nor are we bad at everything. In fact, many times our struggles are what make us stronger or teach us lessons about life. Other times, we're able to overcome those weakness or obstacles to accomplish what needs to be done.

Earlier this year, some real-life superheroes put their own lives in danger to rescue three children from a burning building. Let's watch what happens.

Play the following clip [2:22; stop at 1:32]: 3 kids rescued from house fire in Keansburg, N.J. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r8uPk031 t8

While the neighbors were fast and strong and able to help rescue the children, their weakness was not having any type of personal protective gear typically worn by firefighters. If they had tried to go into the house without this type of gear, they could have been very seriously hurt.

> How do you think the children felt when the neighbors helped them out of the window? (Answers may vary: Relieved someone was coming to their rescue; scared because they didn't know the neighbors; thankful for his quick response, etc.)

➤ Have you ever been in a situation where you didn't think you were strong enough to accomplish something, but you did it anyway and accomplished the task? Explain. (Some possible answers: I was in the spelling bee at school and never thought I could get to the end, but I did and ended up winning the whole thing; I never thought I was smart enough to get straight A's in school, but I worked hard anyway and ended up getting straight A's that year, etc.)

We've all been faced with seemingly impossible tasks in our lives. Tasks where we felt weak, unprepared, or underequipped to complete the job. Some of us have given up when that happened and others of us have pushed on and gotten it done anyway. Either way, feeling weak in a situation isn't fun; in fact, it makes us feel defeated before we even get started.

In today's lesson we're going to learn about another man in the Bible who faced an impossible situation. Talk about feeling weak! But, our God is a God of making the impossible, possible. When we are weak, He is strong. Let's read on to see how strong our God is.

(Continue on to Steps 2 and 3 in your teacher's guide; your Step 4 appears below.)



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Materials:

- Paper
- Pens/pencils

If your class is meeting online, invite students to bring supplies with them to class.

Earlier we saw how God uses the weak to show His power. God took Gideon's army of 300 men and DEFEATED an army of 135,000 men. That is an impossible task unless God is involved! Read today's memory verse out loud to the class (1 Corinthians 1:27). God used a weak and meager army to defeat and shame a strong and powerful one in order to showcase His own strength and power. God showed everyone His power in Gideon's life, and He can do the same in ours.

> What are some things in your life you want God's strength to show through in spite of your weakness? (Don't force students to answer this out loud. They can think about this question quietly to themselves if they'd rather.)

Distribute supplies (or invite students to have them ready at home). Have them spread out and find somewhere to think and work by themselves. On their paper, they should make a list of things they feel they're struggling with. Examples might include their attitude, their relationships with friends or siblings, their relationship with God, schoolwork, etc.

Once they've written their list, have them write a prayer surrendering all of their weaknesses to God. Encourage them to share their hearts with God. They can let Him know they can't accomplish any of these things without His help and they want His power to shine through in each of their struggles, so everyone will know He is the One who accomplished the work. Students should then spend some quiet time praying what they've written.

Optional: If you feel comfortable, you can play this song in the background as your students work and pray[4:25]:

Lauren Daigle - You Say (Lyrics)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZvKJl1kK8g

God wants to use us to show others His great power. Those weaknesses that we think make us not good enough, God can actually turn into something amazing. He can do the impossible in us and through us. In the process, those around us will see Him working in our lives. We are living proof of Christ's power. We show others who He is, by allowing Him to accomplish the impossible in our struggles.

Take your lists and your prayers and tuck them in your Bibles. As you come into things that are hard this week, or situations that give you a tough time, don't give up. Instead, remember Gideon's story and remember how God did the impossible in that situation. Then stop and pray like you've done today and give that weakness over to God. He is strong when we are weak. Let Him showcase His power through you this week.

Pray to close.

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