

Who Do You Say That I Am

Part four of the series, "Great Faith: When God Speaks"

Sunday, February 3, 2019 • Pastor Parris Hayashi

"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. When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.'" (Judges 6:11-12 NIV)

God see us as who we are to become.

"The Lord is with you, mighty warrior." (v. 12)

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9 NIV)

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." (2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV)

Gideon's faith moved him to obey God and take action.

"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?'" (Judges 6:14 NIV)

"...Tear down your father's altar to Baal and cut down the Asherah pole beside it. ²⁶Then build a proper kind of altar to the Lord your God on the top of this height...²⁷So Gideon took ten of his servants and did as the Lord told him." (Judges 6:25-27 NIV)

"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." (Isaiah 41:10 NIV)

God had to prune before He provided.

"The Lord said to Gideon, 'With the three hundred men that lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hands. Let all the others go home.' So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites home but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others." (Judges 7:7-8 NIV)

"Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 6:13-14 NIV)

Through Gideon's obedience, the power of God was unleashed.

"...He returned to the camp of Israel and called out, 'Get up! The Lord has given the Midianite camp into your hands.'" (Judges 7:15 NIV)

"Gideon and the hundred men with him reached the edge of the camp at the beginning of the middle watch, just after they had changed the guard. They blew their trumpets and broke the jars that were in their hands... When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the Lord caused the men throughout the camp to turn on each other with their swords. The army fled..." (Judges 7:19, 22 NIV)

"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds." (2 Corinthians 10:3-4 NIV)