

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



1. LIGHT IT UP

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic cups, scissors, grey or white tissue paper, glue sticks, orange and red construction paper, black markers, and electric tea light candles

WHAT YOU DO:

- Review the story of Gideon together as a group using the Story Review Points below.
- Give each kid a plastic cup, black marker, tea light candle, piece of orange construction paper, piece of red construction paper, and a pair of scissors.
- Instruct the kids to cut out a few orange construction paper squares, about the length of their fingers.
- Direct the kids to write on each square things God gave Gideon or ways He helped him. (For example: God sent fire down to burn meat and bread to show Gideon He had sent the message.)
- Instruct the kids to fill as many squares as they can.
- Direct the kids to cut out squares from their red paper like they did with the orange paper.
- Ask them to write on each of the red squares one thing God has given them. (For example: He made me good at math. I can make people laugh. I really love art.)
- Instruct the kids to place their tea light candle in the bottom of their cup.
- Give each kid one piece of tissue paper and a glue stick.
- Instruct them to rip up their tissue paper into small pieces or strips then glue the tissue paper on the outside of their cup until it is covered completely.
- Hand out more pieces of tissue paper if needed.
- Direct kids to glue a few of their orange and red squares around the rim of the cup to stick up and out like fire flames.
- They can put the remaining paper squares in the cup.
- The end result should look like a small torch, lit from the inside.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Use Somebody

Gideon
Judges 6–8

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

God can use you no matter what.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**I remain confident of this:
I will see the goodness of the
Lord in the land of the living.**
Psalm 27:13, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Confidence—Learning to see
yourself the way God sees you**

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

Story Review Points

1. God's people, the Israelites, turned away from Him. So God allowed the Midianites to take over their land. The Israelites called out to God for help! God heard them and sent the angel of the Lord to Gideon.
2. The Angel of the Lord told Gideon that God would use him to save Israel from Midian. Gideon didn't know why or how that could be possible because he didn't come from a strong family tribe, and he was the weakest member of that tribe.
3. Gideon asked God to send him a sign that the message was really from Him. So God sent fire to burn up meat and bread that Gideon had prepared.
4. Gideon asked God for another two signs. God listened and gave him two more signs with a wet and dry fleece.

(1. LIGHT IT UP, CONTINUED)

5. Gideon was finally convinced that God wanted to use him. So, Gideon got ready to fight with 32,000 men. But God told him there were too many men to defeat the Midianites.
6. Gideon was confused. But God told Gideon He wanted the Israelites to know they didn't beat the Midianites with their own strength but with God's!
7. God continued to make Gideon's army smaller until he only had 300 men left!
8. With God's power and help, Gideon and the 300 men conquered the Midianites using trumpets, jars, and torches, proving that **God can use you no matter what.**

WHAT YOU SAY:

"There are times I feel like the underdog, the one who's not good enough, just like Gideon did. Maybe there are times you feel like an underdog, too. Maybe you look around at your friends and wish you had certain things they do. Perhaps you wish you could be better at math or could play basketball like the other kid in school. There are all kinds of scenarios that leave us wishing things were different sometimes. **[Make it Personal] (Share an age-appropriate example of something you wish could be different or a time when you felt like an underdog.)**

"This week, anytime you feel like you're not good enough, flip the light on inside your cup. Reach inside and remember what God has given you. Things may not look how you want them to, but we can trust that **God can use you no matter what.** God has an awesome plan and purpose for your life, and He designed you with those great plans in mind! Let your light shine brightly like Gideon's. Be confident that God made you just as you are. He loves how He made you, and He wants to do great things through you!"

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



4. PRAY AND DISMISS [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Cups from "Light It Up" Activity, yellow construction paper, and black markers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid one piece of yellow paper and a black marker.
- Direct the kids to write prayers of gratitude on their yellow paper, thanking God for the way He made them and uses them, no matter what.
- Instruct kids to mention things God has given them in their prayers and mention ways God has used them or will use them.
- Encourage the kids to fold their prayer into a small ball and place it inside their cup.
- Pray with your group.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, thank You for making beautiful and awesome things out of us. No matter what we have, no matter what we bring, **God can use you no matter what.** In the times when we think we need more, we need to change, or we wish we were different, remind us that You have given us everything we need to live a life according to Your plan! You have plans for us and have given us what we need to follow You. We give You what we have and worship You for the ways You will use us. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their "Light It Up" cups. Prompt them to tell the adults what Gideon had inside his jar and what they have inside theirs. Remind them that **God can use you no matter what!**

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