



# WEEKLY WORD

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church | www.gloriadeionline.com | 515-276-1700

March 5 and 6, 2011 | Transformation of our Lord

## Progression toward Spiritual Maturity

by Pastor Tim Phillips, Director of Congregational Care



The guy must have been from Missouri. He always wanted proof. Gideon lived in the period of the Judges. His life experience was particularly difficult. Every summer when the crops were reaching maturity in the fields, foreign armies would invade the land where he lived. The people were broken in spirit and were so defeated that they no longer attempted to fight or defend themselves. Instead, they simply prepared places to hide in the mountains. Gideon had witnessed this hopeless situation many times. He trusted in God - but not for this.

Even when the malach-yahweh or the Angel of the Lord came and spoke with him face to face, Gideon doubted. Those were terrible times. Israel was worshipping false gods but they blamed the true God for their troubles (see Judges 6:12-17). Here is how the exchange went between the angel and Gideon:

Angel: Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?

Gideon: But Lord, how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family.

Angel: I will be with you and you will strike down all the Midianites together.

Gideon: If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me.

Do you get the point? God's words are very simple and direct. They are powerful and confident. Gideon's words are stammering and weak. He constantly weasels out of God's directives by expressing his doubts and challenging God's words. How often in our lives when things get rough do we doubt the simple strong words of God? As Gideon progressed in his faith, he learned and relearned to trust in God and his promises.

## Ash Wednesday and Lenten Services

We will offer traditional Ash Wednesday services at Gloria Dei on March 9 in the Sanctuary. Our midday service from 12:15-12:45 is a great opportunity for those who have the lunch hour free. Our evening worship service will begin with children, youth and adults worshipping together until children and youth are dismissed for their educational times. Adults will remain in the Sanctuary as the "Were You There?" message series unfolds.

"**Were you There?**" message series: Since Calvary nothing's been the same. Do we realize the difference? Do we know what Calvary means to us? To truly understand Christ's passion, we must go back to the cross. We must see ourselves not as onlookers, but as participants in the drama. Take some time out of your busy week, and join us this Wednesday as we begin to see what the Lord experienced days before he was led to the cross.

**Wednesday, March 9:** "Were You There? When He Was Betrayed"

For more information about all of our Lenten services, see page 3.

**Midweek Meal:** All worshippers are invited to our midweek meal (baked potato bar) from 5-5:45 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Adults eat for \$4 and children and youth eat for \$2. Children under 2 eat free.

Mar.  
12-13 **Hint**

**Next week's destination**

*Hint:*

**God looks past our  
imperfection. He sees  
faith and uses us to  
do his work.**

*Write your answer here.*

## Hospitality Update

Starting this weekend, March 5-6, the new hospitality teams will be hosting each worship service.

We are thankful for the ministry partners who have served in the past as elders and ushers. We pray God has blessed their loving service to our church.

If you would still like to join a hospitality team, please contact Pastor Robarge at [probarge@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:probarge@gloriadeionline.com).

## Spring Break Schedule

**March 12-13 and March 19-20**

Grace Place, Castaway and Senior High Bible Study will not meet.

## Thrivent Choice Grant Program

Please consider taking the necessary steps in the Thrivent Choice Grant Program. It helps our ministry considerably.

Information can be found at the Welcome Centers.

## Information Changes

If you have recently moved or decided to discontinue use of your landline phone and use only your cell phone as your primary number, please notify Diane Schmidt at [diane@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:diane@gloriadeionline.com).

## The Iowa Prayer Breakfast

The fiftieth annual Iowa Prayer Breakfast with state and community leaders will be held Thursday, April 21 from 7:15-8:45 a.m. at the Polk County Convention Complex, 501 Grand Ave., Des Moines. Brannon Howse will speak on "Put Your Beliefs To the Test." For breakfast registration information or questions call 515-223-1500 by April 13. Tickets cost \$10 for students and \$20 for adults.

## Comfort Foods Ministry

Have you ever had someone drop off a tasty meal when you really needed it? Maybe you had your hands full with a new baby or had just moved into your house. Maybe you were recovering from surgery and found it difficult to go shopping or prepare a meal. We are beginning an organized ministry to provide meals to those who are in such a circumstance. If you would like to be part of the team, please contact Pastor Phillips at [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com) or call the church office at 276-1700. If you would like to prepare a meal, stop by the display in the narthex and pick up a small casserole pan with instructions.

## Survey

We are seeking worshipper input related to worship services. Each worshipper is asked to fill out a short, simple survey. If you choose to use the paper survey, one is enclosed in the Weekly Word. Additional surveys are available at the Welcome Centers in the back of the narthex or the Family Life Center. There will be pencils on the tables near the Welcome Centers for your convenience. Collection baskets will be placed at the Welcome Centers for the completed surveys. Please take a few moments to complete a survey today; your input is valuable. If you choose, you can also complete the survey online by accessing the church Web site at [www.gloriadeionline.com](http://www.gloriadeionline.com) and clicking on the link provided. Surveys will be accepted through Sunday, March 13.

## Prayer offered at Capitol

Pastor Burcham recently delivered the opening prayer (posted on our Web site) to the House and Senate at the Capitol. Pictured from left to right are State Senator Brad Zaun (R-Urbandale), Pastor Burcham, Martha Raecker and Rep. Scott Raecker (R-Urbandale).



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Governing Board  
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For a complete staff listing: go to our  
Web site at: [www.gloriadeionline.com](http://www.gloriadeionline.com)

## LWML

**Mary Esther Circle** will meet Thursday, Mar. 10 at 9 a.m. at the home of Joan Kickbush, 13942 Oak Brook Dr., Urbandale.

**Miriam Circle** will meet Tuesday, Mar. 8 at 7 p.m. at the church.

**Naomi Circle** will meet Thursday, Mar. 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the church.

**Rebekah Circle** will meet Thursday, Mar. 10 at 7 p.m. at the home of Peg Riddle, 1661 NW 96th St., Clive.

**Ruth Circle** will meet Monday, Mar. 14 at 7 p.m. at the home of Elaine Mueller, 3205 Mary Lynn Dr., Urbandale.

# Tiny Treasures Consignment Sale

Friday, April 15 from 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 16 from 7:30-11 a.m.



tiny treasures  
lutheran preschool

Twice a year Tiny Treasures holds a consignment sale that sells gently-used items for children. This event is open to the public, so invite your friends and neighbors.

**Sellers:** Sellers can print a registration form online or pick up a form at one of the Information Centers.

**Volunteers:** Lots of volunteers are needed for the sale.

If interested, sign up at the sheet posted on the window of the preschool office.

## Lent: What is it? Why is it?

Lent is a 40-day season of preparation for Easter, the day our Lord rose from the dead. The 40 days of preparation symbolize the time Jesus fasted and was tempted in the wilderness for 40 days. Lent, then, is a time of fasting, prayer, and repentance for Christians. Lent is not required anywhere in scriptures, but it has been a custom which we have practiced for years. Lent always begins on a Wednesday, called Ash Wednesday. At Gloria Dei, we offer special Lenten services to help direct our minds and hearts to the sacrifice of our Lord. This year, we will offer Lenten services at 12:15 and 6 p.m. in the Sanctuary starting Wednesday, March 9. We hope you will join us as we take time to reflect on all the events leading up to Easter.

**Wednesday, March 9:** “Were You There? When He Was Betrayed”

**Wednesday, March 16:** “Were You There? When He Was Denied”

**Wednesday, March 23:** “Were You There? When He was Accused”

**Wednesday, March 30:** “Were You There? When He was Condemned”

**Wednesday, April 6:** “Were You There? When He was Crowned with Thorns”

**Wednesday, April 13:** “Were You There? When He Was Crucified”

## Servers

### Officiant/Liturgist:

5:30 p.m. (FLC):  
Rev. Tim Phillips

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Rev. Ron Burcham

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Rev. Ron Burcham

9 a.m. (FLC):  
Rev. Phil Robarge

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Rev. Tim Phillips

### Preacher:

Rev. Tim Phillips

### Organist:

Lynn Hays

### Acolytes:

7:45 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Tim Dorn

9 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Dylan Elder

10:30 a.m. (Sanctuary):  
Megan Cushing

### Hospitality Team Northwind

Team One

### 7:45 a.m.

Team One

### 9 a.m.

Team One

### 9 a.m. (FLC)

Richard and Laura Valle  
and Family

### 10:30 a.m.

Team One

### Scripture Reading:

Judges 7:1-8 and Luke 18:24-27 (NIV)

## Let's pray!

Blue prayer request cards are beneath the pews. Please indicate your prayer request and place the card in the offering plate. We have both e-mail and phone prayer chains available. Call Pastor Phillips in the church office, 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 993-3870 with your request.

## Thanksgivings

- For our families

## Prayers

### For the health of:

- Sarah Fries
- Addison Blythe
- Charlene Stewart
- Brandon Smith
- Jolene Norviel
- Lee Norviel
- Gene Osby
- Natalie Mason
- Zach Jorgensen
- Faith Newman

### And for:

- Darwin Bartels and family mourning the loss of his mother, Wilma
- The people of Christchurch, New Zealand
- All of our military and workers serving around the world

## Prayer team

If you are interested in joining the prayer ministry team, please e-mail Pastor Phillips at: [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com) with your name, e-mail address and phone number.

## Military personnel

We are planning to update our Web page for Gloria Dei's military personnel. Please send us the name of any member presently serving in the military, where they are serving and a picture if one is available. If you have any questions, contact Karen Kennedy at [karen@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:karen@gloriadeionline.com).

## Snack bags

Children will have the opportunity to reach out to other children by decorating snack bags and filling them with non-perishable items to be given to the Urbandale Food Pantry.

We are collecting non-perishable nutritional snacks such as fruit cups, granola bars, cheese and cracker packs, etc. Please have your children drop them off in the "Children's Ministry" bin in the narthex.

## Lost and found

If you have lost an item at church, please check the lost and found shelf above the coat racks near the narthex. All unclaimed items will be given to a local charity on March 10.

## Women of Faith

**Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14**

For years, Women of Faith has ministered to women in Des Moines by lively worship, inspiring personal stories and encouraging teachings. Discounted tickets for \$89 will be available until March 3 at [www.gloriadeionline.com](http://www.gloriadeionline.com). For more information, pick up a brochure at the Welcome Centers.

## Thank you

Many thanks to all who sent cards and helped me celebrate my 75th birthday. You made my day and left me with warm memories.

God bless you all!

Shirley Kramer

## Midweek Meal

**Wednesday, Mar. 9 from 5-5:45 p.m. - Potato Bar**  
Adults eat for \$4 and children and youth eat for \$2.  
Children under 2 eat free.

Groups

# PANDA MANIA

Where God is Wild about You! Psalm 139

## Vacation Bible School



### March 14-17

9-11:30 a.m.

Ages 3-11

Invite your friends and neighbors for the spring break VBS fun.





Donations needed!

During VBS we will be serving our community, too. We will be collecting gently used books, towels and blankets, hats and mittens and pre-packaged snack items.

Registration today @ [www.gloriadeionline.com](http://www.gloriadeionline.com).

## Gloria Dei Youth Ministry

### 30 Hour Famine

Friday, April 8 and Saturday, April 9

Registration forms and checks are due by March 13.

**Mandatory Meeting Sunday, March 27 from 10-10:20 a.m. in rooms 136/138**

This meeting is for youth signed up for the 30 Hour Famine and their parents. Information on what to bring and what will happen during the event will be given at this time. If you have questions, contact Kim Phillips at [tnk4jcl@msn.com](mailto:tnk4jcl@msn.com).

**Dinner Theater - "Family Camp" March 26-27 and April 1-2**

Dinner theater practices will be held Sunday, Mar 6 13 and 20 from 12-2 p.m.

Don't forget to buy your tickets starting March 5-6.

Ticket Prices: \$10 - adults; \$8 - under 10 and over 55



## Junior high (6-8)

**Sunday: Castaway:** Expect fun times during our Castaway hour from 9-10 a.m. on Sunday mornings. The discussion topic will follow the "Destination - Resurrection" message series.

**Wednesday from 6-7:15 p.m.** Students in grades 6-8 meet in small groups to discuss various topics relevant to their lives.

## Senior high (9-12)

**The Point:** Join us this Wednesday from 6-7:15 p.m. in the Youth Center for praise, large-group Bible study and small-group discussion.

**Senior High Bible Study:** Join us for Bible study on Sunday morning from 9-10 a.m.



## Tickets go on sale March 5.

The Youth Ministry dinner theater will transport us back to an old-school Christian campground where colorful characters and laughter abounds.

Tickets will be sold after services on the weekends of March 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20. Tickets will also be available at the office between the hours of 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Saturday, March 26 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 27 at 12 p.m.  
 Friday, April 1 at 6:30 p.m.  
 Saturday, April 2 at 6:30 p.m.

## Items needed

**Urbandale Food Pantry** - Please consider donating Kleenex and paper towels to the Food Pantry bin in the narthex.

**Honduras Mission** - Please drop off hair pretties, combs, hair gel and hair detangler to the Honduras bin in the narthex.

**Eyeglasses** - The Honduras team is also collecting eyeglasses to take with them. Place them in the Honduras bin in the narthex as soon as possible so the optometrist can determine their strength.

## Help Wanted

Due to the increased number of infants and children on Monday mornings, the nursery is in need of additional staffing. Hours are Monday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. This is a paid position and other hours may be available. There are also some hours available for teens 14 years or older. Please contact Carol Wenndt in the nursery Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, at 515-306-4352 or email her at [kewenndt@att.net](mailto:kewenndt@att.net).

# Week of Mar. 5-12, 2011

## Saturday, Mar. 5

- 8:30 a.m. Gloria Dei Quilters
- 8:30 a.m. Scrapbook Fellowship
- 3:45 p.m. Northwind Worship Team Practice
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 5:50 p.m. Grace Place

## Sunday, Mar. 6

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 7:45 a.m. H3 Worship Practice
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Senior High Bible Study
- 9:00 a.m. Castaway
- 9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 9:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place
- 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Adult Bible Study
- 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study
- 10:30 a.m. Infusion Contemporary Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 10:50 a.m. Grace Place
- 12:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Practice
- 5:00 p.m. Jr. High Café 923

## Monday, Mar. 7

- 9:30 a.m. Mom's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study - morning
- 1:00 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- 3:30 p.m. Next Step Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Supervision
- 6:30 p.m. Stephen Minister Training
- 6:30 p.m. Women's Bible Study - evening
- 6:30 p.m. VBS Ministry Partners Orientation

## Tuesday, Mar. 8

- 6:30 a.m. Quest for Authentic Manhood
- 1:00 p.m. Directors' Meeting
- 2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study
- 4:50 p.m. Kindermusik Young Child
- 5:00 p.m. Health and Fitness
- 5:30 p.m. Carilloneurs
- 5:30 p.m. Kindermusik Village
- 6:00 p.m. Governing Board Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Beginning Dance

## Tuesday, Mar. 8 (Continued)

- 6:05 p.m. Kindermusik Our Time
- 6:30 p.m. Financial Peace University
- 6:40 p.m. Kindermusik Imagine That
- 6:45 p.m. Creative Dance
- 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study
- 7:00 p.m. Miriam Circle Meeting

## Wednesday, Mar. 9

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor Robarge's Bible Study
- 12:15 p.m. Ash Wednesday Midday Worship with Communion
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship with Communion
- 6:00 p.m. Faith Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Junior High Small Groups
- 6:00 p.m. Senior High - The Point
- 7:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

## Thursday, Mar. 10

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Naomi Circle
- 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
- 6:00 p.m. Infusion Practice
- 6:30 p.m. Care Night
- 6:30 p.m. Health and Fitness
- 6:30 p.m. Men's Basketball
- 6:30 p.m. Pastor Burcham MAT Meeting

## Friday, Mar. 11

No scheduled events

## Saturday, Mar. 12

- 10:00 a.m. Baby Shower
- 3:45 p.m. Northwind Worship Team Practice
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion

Scripture Based on Giving:

*"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it." Malachi 3:10-11*

Worship (Feb. 26-27)	Attendance	Communion
Northwind	156	98
7:45 a.m.	118	
9 a.m. (Sanctuary)	304	
9 a.m. (FLC)	100	39
10:30 a.m.	300	
<b>Total</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>137</b>

Outpouring of Love (Feb. 26-27)	
General Fund Offerings	\$32,114
3rd QTD Offering	\$257,326
3rd QTD Budget	\$273,000

## Week of Mar. 12-19, 2011

### Saturday, Mar. 12

- 10:00 a.m. Baby Shower  
 3:45 p.m. Northwind Worship Team Practice  
 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in  
 Family Life Center with Communion

### Sunday, Mar. 13

#### Daylight Savings Time Begins

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary  
 7:45 a.m. H3 Worship Practice  
 9:00 a.m. New Member Welcome  
 9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary  
 9:00 a.m. H3 Worship Service in Family Life Center  
 with Communion  
 9:10 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
 9:20 a.m. Lifelight Adult Bible Study  
 10:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study  
 10:30 p.m. New Member Welcome  
 10:30 a.m. Infusion Contemporary Worship Service  
 10:30 a.m. Vacation Bible School Setup  
 12:00 p.m. Dinner Theater Practice  
 1:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop #659  
 2:30 p.m. Girl Scout Daisy Troop

### Monday, Mar. 14

- 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School  
 6:30 p.m. Stephen Minister Training

### Tuesday, Mar. 15

- 6:30 a.m. Quest for Authentic Manhood  
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School  
 1:00 p.m. Directors' Meeting  
 2:30 p.m. Tuesday Afternoon Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community  
 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study

### Wednesday, Mar. 16

- 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School  
 12:15 p.m. Midday Lenten Worship Service  
 6:00 p.m. Lenten Worship Service  
 7:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Chorale

### Thursday, Mar. 17

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
 9:00 a.m. Vacation Bible School  
 10:00 a.m. Joyful Stitchers  
 6:00 p.m. Infusion Practice  
 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community  
 7:30 p.m. Worship Ministry Meeting

### Friday, Mar. 18

No scheduled events

### Saturday, Mar. 19

- 3:45 p.m. Northwind Worship Team Practice  
 5:30 p.m. Northwind Worship Service in  
 Family Life Center

## Men's Bible Study

It's not too late to join the 6:30 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study, Quest for Authentic Manhood. If you have questions, please contact Bill Clark at [billclark@mchsi.com](mailto:billclark@mchsi.com).

Children's Attendance	Saturday 5:50 p.m.	Sunday 9:20 a.m.	Sunday 10:50 a.m.	Wednesday 6:15 p.m.	Youth Attendance	Sunday	Wednesday 6:15 p.m.
Preschool	11	24	15	18	Junior High	9	91
Elementary	23	55	38	115	Senior High	28	35
<b>Total Children</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>Total Youth</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>126</b>

# Welcome to Gloria Dei! We are glad you are here!

Welcome! Please take some time to get to know us. If you have any questions, ask any of our member or stop by the Welcome Center today!

## Weekend Worship Services

Children are encouraged to worship with their parents at each service before being invited to Grace Place: Saturday at 5:50 and Sunday at 9:20 and 10:50 a.m. For youth in grades 6-8, an invitation to Castaway will be extended on Sunday at 9:20 a.m.

**Northwind Contemporary Worship Service:** Saturday at 5:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center: This come-as-you-are service offers high-energy worship.

**Traditional Worship Service:** Sunday at 7:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary: Join us in this classical Lutheran worship service that utilizes all the divine services and hymns from the new Lutheran Service Book.

**Traditional Worship Service:** Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Sanctuary: Our classical Lutheran worship makes use of written and free-flow liturgy with traditional hymns.

**H-3 Family Worship Service:** Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Family Life Center: Experience the wonder of a child in this casual and friendly-family atmosphere where families with young children worship together. Toe-tapping hymns, lively praise music and puppets will capture the heart of all family members.

**Infusion-Contemporary Worship:** Sunday at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary: This service offers high-energy worship using contemporary Christian songs and praise music.

## Other Important Items

**Nursery:** Infants to age 3. Located on the lower level with access through the doors in the narthex. The nursery is staffed during all worship services for children ages 3 and under at no cost to the parent.

**Cry room:** Located in the southwest corner of the narthex is a room with a full view of the Sanctuary for parents to take their small children when they are upset or crying.

## Communion

Communion is offered on the first and third Sundays of each month during the services in the Sanctuary and the second and fourth Saturdays and Sundays during the services in the Family Life Center.

A note to our guests and visitors: The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Gloria Dei in the belief and with the confession that this Sacrament is the very body and blood of Christ (The Doctrine of the Real Presence) which is received with the bread and the wine for us to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our faith. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and seek to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us. If you agree with our beliefs regarding the nature and meaning of this Sacrament and desire to commune with us, you are welcome! For the medical and/or physical needs of members or visitors, non-alcoholic wine will be in the inner circle of each communion tray and will be lighter in color than the regular wine. In addition, gluten-free wafers are available, please alert the elders before the service if possible.

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## Weekly Bible Reading

### Judges 7:1-8 (NIV)

Early in the morning, Jerub-Baal (that is, Gideon) and all his men camped at the spring of Harod. The camp of Midian was north of them in the valley near the hill of Moreh. The LORD said to Gideon, "You have too many men for me to deliver Midian into their hands. In order that Israel may not boast against me that her own strength has saved her, announce now to the people, 'Anyone who trembles with fear may turn back and leave Mount Gilead.'" So twenty-two thousand men left, while ten thousand remained.

But the LORD said to Gideon, "There are still too many men. Take them down to the water, and I will sift them for you there. If I say, 'This one shall go with you,' he shall go; but if I say, 'This one shall not go with you,' he shall not go."

So Gideon took the men down to the water. There the LORD told him, "Separate those who lap the water with their tongues like a dog from those who kneel down to drink." Three hundred men lapped with their hands to their mouths. All the rest got down on their knees to drink.

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 other men go, each to his own place." So Gideon sent the rest of the Israelites to their tents but kept the three hundred, who took over the provisions and trumpets of the others. Now the camp of Midian lay below him in the valley.