

Just Do It  
Sunday, August 30, 2026

There is a lesson that I have learned in my life that is foundational to me. And it is a lesson of obedience and of taking action. I so much believe that God is still alive, active—and He still loves to do miracles! But most miracles that I see in the Bible followed a step of faith. It's almost as if our taking of a step connects our faith in action to God's power that is waiting to be set into motion. It's like a catalyst.

There are two stories in the Bible that I have had fun with these past couple of years and have spent time reading over and over and that I want to pattern my life after. (2 men that I can identify with! They were not famous leaders or the most influential people when they started. But they grabbed onto God and made a difference in their time. For such a time as this. This is what I want people to say about me at the end of my life!)

Our story starts with two men living in challenging times. (We can identify!)

Gideon (Judges 6-7)

*<sup>2</sup>The power of Midian prevailed against Israel. Because of Midian the sons of Israel made for themselves the dens which were in the mountains and the caves and the strongholds. <sup>3</sup>For it was when Israel had sown, that the Midianites would come up with the Amalekites and the sons of the east and go against them. <sup>4</sup>So they would camp against them and destroy the produce of the earth as far as Gaza, and leave no sustenance in Israel as well as no sheep, ox, or donkey. <sup>5</sup>For they would come up with their livestock and their tents, they would come in like locusts for number, both they and their camels were innumerable; and they came into the land to devastate it. <sup>6</sup>So Israel was brought very low (impoverished) because of Midian, and the sons of Israel cried to the LORD.*

*Judges 6:2-6*

State of Israel:

- Living in dens, caves, strongholds in the mountains (under constant fear of attack and robbery; famine because enemy destroyed all the crops/food supply for man and animal.
- Greatly impoverished
- Defeated; resigned to their situation (they made 'ways' of living under the oppression, i.e.: threshing wheat in the winepress, living in caves...)

Jonathon (1 Samuel 13-14)

*<sup>5</sup>Now the Philistines assembled to fight with Israel, thirty thousand chariots and six thousand horsemen, and people like the sand which is on the seashore in abundance; and they came up and camped in Michmash, east of Beth-aven. <sup>6</sup>When the men of Israel saw that they were in trouble (for the people were hard-pressed), then the people kept themselves*

*hidden in caves, in crevices, in cliffs, in crypts, and in pits. <sup>7</sup>And some of the Hebrews crossed the Jordan into the land of Gad and Gilead. But as for Saul, he was still in Gilgal, and all the people followed him, trembling.*  
*Judges 13:5-7*

#### State of Israel:

- Hiding in caves, in crevices, in cliffs, in crypts, and in pits.
- Outnumbered (600 men), without weapons and under constant threat of attack
- Distressed, afraid, and no idea what to do
- Some were already captives/slaves of the Philistines

#### The Israelites had 4 responses to living under oppression:

1. Some had already been defeated and were serving the enemy. This represents those who have already given up. They are no longer trying to fight back.
2. Those who ran away and are hiding in cracks in the mountain. They are beating their wheat in winepresses. They are used to living under the oppression. They are hiding and living in fear and hoping someone else will do something.
3. Those who are willing to fight but are unsure. They don't know what to do. They don't know what step to take. (They lack the resources (weapons). They are they 600 with Saul and the 300 with Gideon. ) Seemingly impossible task!
4. Gideon and Jonathon: What made them different?  
They knew that they had God on their side. (Judges 6:14—Have I not sent you?)

#### Where it started:

##### Gideon

*<sup>17</sup>So Gideon said to Him, "If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who speak with me. <sup>18</sup>"Please do not depart from here, until I come back to You, and bring out my offering and lay it before You." And He said, "I will remain until you return."*

*Judges 6:17-18*

- His first response is questioning his own worthiness and ability
- "Surely I will be with you"
- He brings his offering and offers it up to God in an act of worship (He believes in God. He has a relationship with God. He is just challenged by this new revelation from God and the staggering call that he just received.) He needs reassurance! But instead of running away, he goes through the motions to receive the reassurance he needs.
- God responds with fire.
- Gideon knows it is surely God and he responds with action (though coupled with fear!).
- Gideon goes out with 10 servants and tears down the altars of Baal *during the night*.
- The Midianites and the Amalekites respond by raising up an army against them.

- Gideon gathers an army which God whittles down to 300 men.

#### Jonathon

- Jonathon attacked a Philistine garrison and the Philistines responded by gathering their armies to attack. 1 Sam. 13:4
- Saul's army had dwindled from 3000 to just 600
- The Philistines are 30000 chariots, 6000 horsemen, and foot soldiers that cannot be numbered.

Gideon goes out at night with his servant to the enemy camp. (Judges 7:10) He overhears the enemy soldiers tell of their dream in which the Midianite camp was overturned. He runs back, gathers up his soldiers with their trumpets and torches inside pitchers, and they attack the enemy camp and the enemy soldiers begin to kill one another in the chaos.

Jonathon also decided that he must take action.

The Israelite army is paralyzed in fear. He goes out with just his armor bearer and with God's help, attacks the camp of the Philistines and very quickly puts to death 20 enemy soldiers. The camp breaks in to chaos and fear and they start killing one another.

*<sup>6</sup>Then Jonathan said to the young man who was carrying his armor, "Come, and let's cross over to the garrison of these uncircumcised men; perhaps the LORD will work for us, because the LORD is not limited to saving by many or by few!"*

God brought victory in both of these circumstances—But something even bigger happened! It wasn't just these two men alone exercising their faith! Something bigger happened.

When Gideon steps out in faith and confidence in God, it becomes contagious!

*<sup>23</sup>The men of Israel were summoned from Naphtali and Asher and all Manasseh, and they pursued Midian. <sup>24</sup>Gideon sent messengers throughout all the hill country of Ephraim, saying, "Come down against Midian and take the waters before them, as far as Beth-barah and the Jordan." So all the men of Ephraim were summoned and they took the waters as far as Beth-barah and the Jordan. Judges 7:23-24*

When Jonathon stepped out in faith,

suddenly, the Israelite slaves who were within the enemy camp rise up and start fighting alongside Jonathon.

The soldiers with Saul rush out to help.

The soldiers and men hiding in the mountain caves and crevices start coming out and joining the fight.

\*When we stand up in courage and obedience, we bring strength to others.

Miracles are often birthed by small individuals who are willing to stand up and do something—even if we do it with fear and trembling!

*.” <sup>14</sup>The LORD looked at him and said, “Go in this your strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?” <sup>15</sup>He said to Him, “O Lord, how shall I deliver Israel? Behold, my family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father’s house.” <sup>16</sup>But the LORD said to him, “Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat Midian as one man.”*  
*Judges 6:14-16*

It is ok to be a bit afraid! But don’t let fear stop you or paralyze you!

Remember God is with you!

A big part of walking with God is being willing to trust what we know about Him:

- God is able!
- God protects His people.
- God will help His people have victory over their enemy. (Satan is our enemy! Not people)
- God has a good plan for us.
- God loves us..
- Our God is faithful.
- Our God is the same yesterday, today and forever.
- God is our provider!
- God heals!

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but the willingness to act in spite of it.” David, Jonathon, Gideon, me!

(the feeling rising up inside you that says—“This is not ok!”).

Holy discontent.

- It is not ok for my family to be lost.
- It is not ok for me to continue to live under the oppression of this sickness.
- It is not ok for the enemy to tear apart my marriage. (I fought back!)
- It is not ok that these children have no one to care for them.
- It is not ok that these families are suffering and walking alone with no one to support them. (Maryssa’s Mission)
- It is not ok for the enemy to steal my children. (I prayed and fasted for my kids for a month)
- It is not ok for that church to die or be shut down. (How Sophea and I became the pastors of NLF-CV)
- It is not ok that all these pastors and isolated and alone without resources, struggling to walk out the calling that God has given them. (KLGN birthed)

We never just get up and plan to do something amazing today—but we do what God told us.

We answer the call before us. We meet the need. We step out. Day after day after day.

We face the fear, we accept the inconvenience. We put it all on the line. ទៅជាអ្នកទៅចូរ

And God brings about the amazing.

*There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love.*

*1 John 4:18*

Share Cambodia update.

## Church updates

New Life Fellowship, Chouk Va is growing!

- Photo when Ps. Gilbert and Eileen were with us!
- 500 plus members. New people/families added monthly
- God miraculously provided us with this beautiful building
- We are to be good stewards and use it to it's full capacity and potential!
- Baptisms
- Connect
  - Renamed (Connect with God, Connect with each other)
  - Youth baptized (authentic testimonies!)
  - Youth being transformed.
    - Overcoming depression, abuse, trauma
    - Orphans finding community, identity, giving back with joy!
- Powerkidz
  - 100+ kids every Sunday
    - Know God
    - Grow in God
    - Share God (Serve God)
  - Kids bringing their parents to church!
- Soccer ministry
  - 100+ kids and teens
  - Starting to really come into church (youth and kids)
  - A few boys gave their life to Jesus
- KLGN
  - Stats:
    - **1,131** Pastors currently in the network
    - **3,866** Salvations within these churches the first half of this year.
    - **1,414** Baptisms the first half of this year.
    - **6** New Provinces have started training
    - **198** Pastors in attendance at recent vision-castings
    - **60+** New pastors already registered for KLGN trainings
    - **2** Provinces remaining to complete nationwide ministry coverage.
  - Shepherding Conference
    - 400+ pastors in attendance
- EIS

- To raise up our church kids with Christian education
- To reach lost children
- Build bridges into our community through the families
- To multiply schools/church plants
  - 204 Students
  - Daycare (18 mo. To 3 years) 10 students
  - Preschool (3 yr. olds, 4 yr. olds, 5 yr. olds) 74 students
  - Primary Dual Program (grades 1-6) 98 students
  - Full-time Int. program (primary grades 1-6) 8 students
  - Full-time Int. program (secondary students 7-12) 14 students

So for our lives—what does this mean? Are there ‘enemies’ in our lives who have been oppressing us, holding us back, keeping us from what God has for us?

- Relationships
- Finances
- Sickness
- Education

Maybe it’s time to do something radical!

Maybe it’s time to step out in faith.

What would you do if you KNEW that God was with you and He was ON YOUR SIDE?

How do we find breakthrough?

*Zach. 4:6. " 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the LORD Almighty."*

- Pray and fast. (set aside distractions, find a place and time, lunchtime, early morning, take a spiritual stand. Enough is enough!)
- Proclaim God’s word and promises. (Bethany’s testimony about not being able to sleep)
- Give. Giving is an act of faith. If we haven’t been giving our tithe and we are struggling with finances, sometimes paying our tithe can release God’s blessing into our life and finances. (Example of the widow and Elijah)
- Take action to prepare yourself for what you know God wants you to do, even if you don’t see the opportunity yet! Study something. Practice something. (Testimony of Kevin Conner)
- Forgive and do acts of kindness towards someone who is an enemy.
- Stand together with other believers. There is power and strength in agreeing together.

<sup>11</sup>Then the angel of the LORD came and sat under the oak that was in Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite as his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the wine press in order to save it from the Midianites. <sup>12</sup>The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O valiant warrior." <sup>13</sup>Then Gideon said to him, "O my lord, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian." <sup>14</sup>The LORD looked at him and said, "Go in this your strength and deliver Israel from the hand of Midian. Have I not sent you?" <sup>15</sup>He said to Him, "O Lord, how shall I deliver Israel? Behold, my family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house." <sup>16</sup>But the LORD said to him, "Surely I will be with you, and you shall defeat Midian as one man."

Judges 6:11-16

<sup>10</sup>"But if you are afraid to go down, go with Purah your servant down to the camp, <sup>11</sup>and you will hear what they say; and afterward your hands will be strengthened that you may go down against the camp." So he went with Purah his servant down to the outposts of the army that was in the camp.

Judges 7:10-11

(Like Jonathon in 1 Samuel 14)

"You can't go back and change the beginning but you can start where you are and change the ending." -C.S. Lewis

A lot of my life has just been putting one foot in front of another. Simple steps of obedience.

And it doesn't matter who you are.

<sup>15</sup>He said to Him, "O Lord, how shall I deliver Israel? Behold, my family is the least in Manasseh, and I am the youngest in my father's house." Judges 6:15

Obeying and following God will bring you the most fulfillment—the best life ever!