

GOD  
*With*  
GIDEON

# *context*

## environment

- ① Judges: 1350 – 1050 BCE
- ② Between Joshua & King Saul
- ③ Midianite & Amalekite invasions 1190 – 1180 BCE

# fears

what's gideon afraid of?

- ① enemy armies
- ② innate weaknesses
- ③ God's abandonment of israel
- ④ God's approval or not
- ⑤ the Lord's presence

# fears

what's gideon afraid of?

- ⑥ his father's family
- ⑦ baal
- ⑧ the odds (450:1)
- ⑨ to act

# REASSURANCES

## God

- ① found gideon
- ② spoke face to face
- ③ called gideon "courageous"
- ④ declare he is with gideon
- ⑤ personally promised success

# REASSURANCES

## God

- ⑥ spends time eating with gideon
- ⑦ signs (7) and miracles (6)
- ⑧ specific instructions
- ⑨ protected gideon from harm
- ⑩ "don't be afraid" "peace be to you"...

# *hesitation*

why is gideon still to afraid to act?

- ① "when emotions are strong, they want to tell us what is true"

# *hesitation*

why is gideon still to afraid to act?

- ① "when emotions are strong, they want to tell us what is true"
- ② God has been out of relationship with israel



# *hesitation*

why is gideon still to afraid to act?

- ① "when emotions are strong, they want to tell us what is true"
- ② God has been out of relationship with israel
- ③ the odds of victory are humanly impossible

# *solution*

when afraid to act remember:

- ① decide who is in charge of the assignment: is God and what he says more in charge or is it me and how i feel about it?

# *solution*

when afraid to act remember:

- ② God patiently, consistently, and frequently repeats himself to us. the empty cross continues to stand

# *solution*

when afraid to act remember:

③ God's math: "God and one are always a majority"

*question*

what are you scared to do