



UNLIKELY HEROES – Pt. 1
How to See Yourself as a Hero

New Horizon Church 05-16-2021 Pastor John Raymond

1. See yourself through _____.

Judges 6:1-2 (NLT), “The Israelites did evil in the LORD’s sight. So the LORD handed them over to the Midianites for seven years. ²The Midianites were so cruel that the Israelites made hiding places for themselves in the mountains, caves, and strongholds.”

Judges 6:6 (NLT), “So Israel was reduced to starvation by the Midianites. Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help.”

2 Chronicles 7:14 (NLT), “Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.”

Judges 6:11-12 (NLT), “Then the angel of the LORD came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. ¹²The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said, “Mighty hero, the LORD is with you!”

1 Samuel 16:7 (NLT), “But the LORD said to Samuel, “Don’t judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The LORD doesn’t see things the way you see them. People judge by outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

2. Stop playing the _____ game.

Judges 6:11-12 (NLT), “Sir,” Gideon replied, “if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn’t they say, ‘The LORD brought us up out of Egypt’? But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites.”

Proverbs 29:2 (NLT), “When the godly are in authority, the people rejoice. But when the wicked are in power, they groan.”

3. Stop making _____.

Judges 6:14-16 (NLT), “Then the LORD turned to him and said, “Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!” ¹⁵“But Lord,” Gideon replied, “how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!” ¹⁶The LORD said to him, “I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man.”

2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (NLT), “⁹Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. ¹⁰That’s why I take pleasure in my weaknesses, and in the insults, hardships, persecutions, and troubles that I suffer for Christ. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”

4. Pursue an _____ with God.

Judges 6:17-18 (NLT), “¹⁷Gideon replied, “If you are truly going to help me, show me a sign to prove that it is really the LORD speaking to me. ¹⁸Don’t go away until I come back and bring my offering to you.”

Judges 6:22-23 (NLT), “When Gideon realized that it was the angel of the LORD, he cried out, “Oh, Sovereign LORD, I’m doomed! I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face!” ²³“It is all right,” the LORD replied. “Do not be afraid. You will not die.” ²⁴And Gideon built an altar to the LORD there and named it Yahweh-Shalom (which means “the LORD is peace”). The altar remains in Ophrah in the land of the clan of Abiezer to this day.”

