

**RIVERSIDE ANGLICAN CHURCHES**  
**QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION**  
**Gideon ~ Judges 6-8**

1. When did you last forget something that you really should have remembered?
2. Read Judges 6:1-10. How is the dire situation of Israel revealed? What is the cause of their situation? What is the message of the Lord's prophet in v8-10?
3. Israel has forgotten the LORD. In what ways do we tend to stop listening to God?
4. In v17 Gideon asks for a sign that it is really the LORD that he is talking with. In 18-27 how does Gideon respond to the sign that is given? What does he get right?
5. If Gideon's family is neither mighty (v15) nor faithful; what enables his service – v34? Read 2 Corinthians 12:9. What areas of life has God called you to serve him where you feel too weak? (home / work / church / marriage etc, etc). Have you prayerfully brought these matters to God?
6. Why does the LORD reduce the size of the army twice (!) in 7:1-8? What is he protecting Israel from in v2? How can you guard against self-reliance in your own life?
7. His people may have forgotten him – but God remembers his people and he acts! What point is emphasized in 7:7-9?
8. In many places here, Gideon gets it right – he is a hero of faith (Heb 11:32-34)! Yet there are other troubling elements, like the war-cry in v18 & 20. Read 7:7 -9, 13-14 and v22. Who is the *real* source of the victory over the Midianites?
9. If only this episode finished at 8:3! But despite God saying he would save with 300 (7:7) Gideon calls out the tribes of Israel on a revenge mission. After all the fighting is over, the men of Israel say 'you have saved us from the hand of Midian' (8:23). How are they mistaken? Why doesn't Gideon correct them?
10. Despite all that has happened, what is the narrator's verdict in 8:34? Confronted with a forgetful people – God speaks, acts and rescues! And yet nothing really changes.
11. Are there areas in your life where you forget what the Lord has given? In (rightly!) thanking others for their love and service, do you remember that all good things are gifts from our Father in heaven? (James 1:17) Like Israel glorifying Gideon and forgetting God, do you thank the person in front of you but forget your Father in heaven? How can you do both?