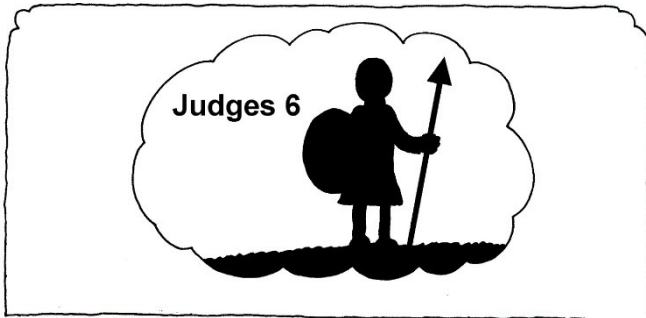


GIDEON

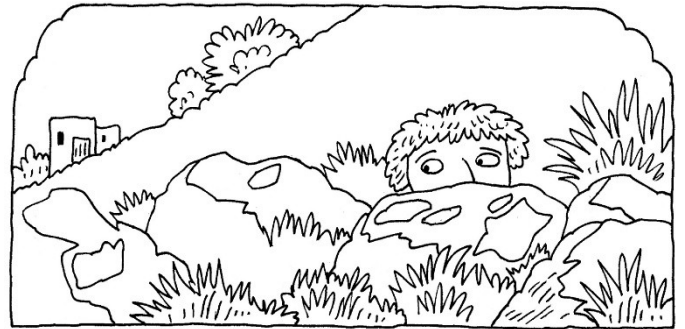
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By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



When we need to be sure that God is telling us to do something we can ask God to show us by a sign. This is called "putting out a fleece."



God told Gideon to lead an army of soldiers and fight the enemies of Israel, but Gideon wanted to be sure he had heard from God.



Just to make sure, he took a fleece of wool, cut from a sheep. "Please show me by a sign that you want me to do this," he prayed.



"I will leave it on dry ground all night. In the morning if the ground is dry, but the fleece is wet, then I will lead the army."



The next morning the woolly fleece was dripping wet, but the ground was dry. "It must be a sign from God," said Gideon.



"Just to be REALLY, REALLY, sure, tomorrow if the ground is wet, but the fleece is dry, I will know," he prayed. The next day the fleece was dry!



Then Gideon knew that God was with him. He took the small army and went to fight Israel's enemies.



The children of Israel were saved from their enemies because Gideon obeyed God.