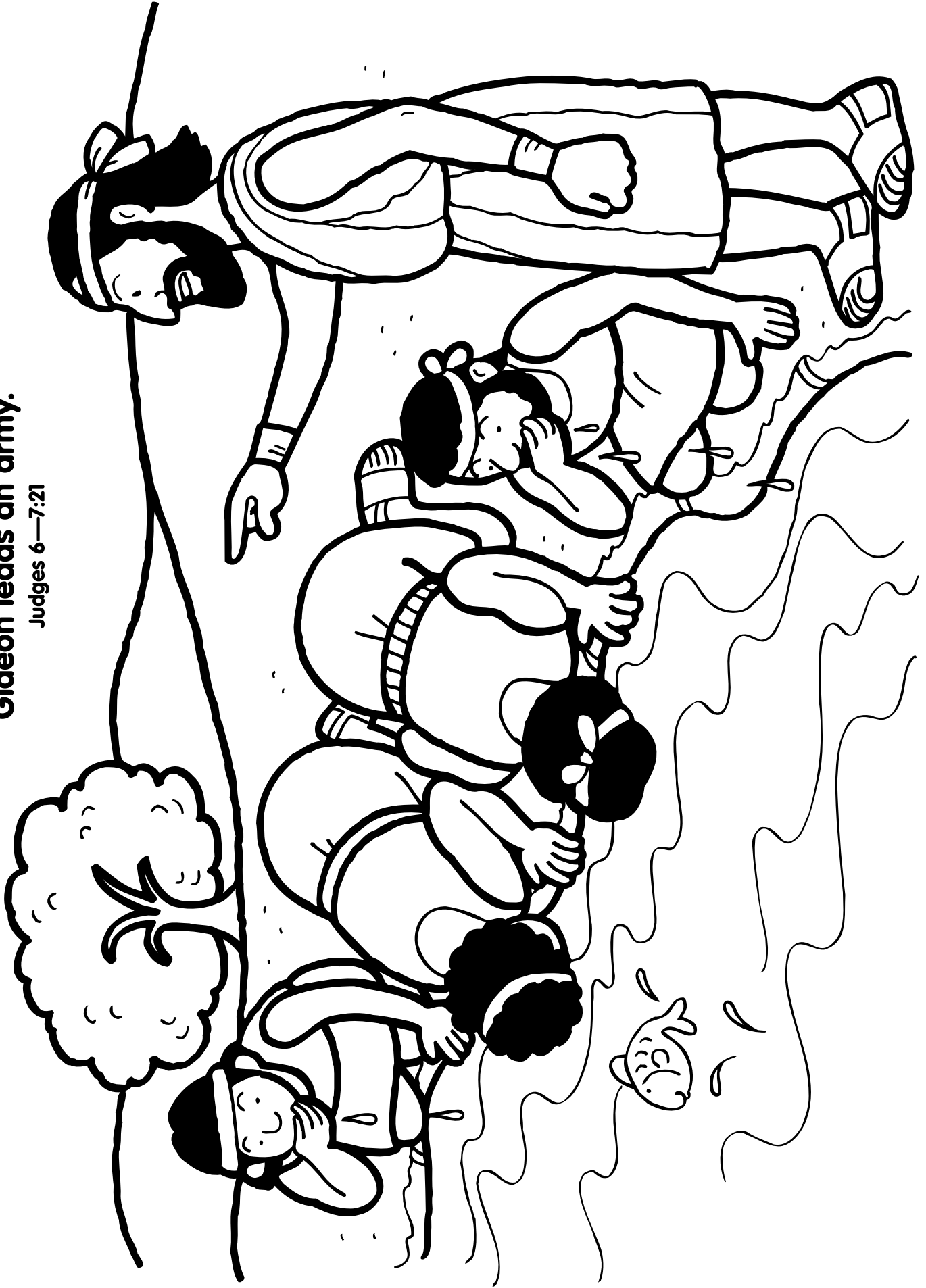


Gideon leads an army.

Judges 6—7:21



Gideon leads an army.

Judges 6—7:21

The Midianites were the Israelites' enemies. They stole everything from the Israelites. The Israelites were so afraid of the Midianites that they hid in caves in the mountains. The Israelites were in trouble. They asked God to help them.

God sent an angel to a man named Gideon. The angel told Gideon that God would help Gideon win against the Midianites. Gideon wanted to make sure the angel's message was true. He asked the angel to prove he was speaking from God. The angel did!

So Gideon got an army of men together to fight the Midianites. God said the army was too big, so God told Gideon to let all the men who were scared go home. Most of the men left. But God told Gideon his army was still too big.

God told Gideon to take the men to the river to get a drink. Most of the men got down on their knees and put their faces down to drink the water like dogs. God told Gideon to send these men home. Now only 300 men were left in Gideon's army!

God told Gideon what to do next. Gideon gave each man in his army a trumpet, a jar and a torch. At night the men surrounded the Midianite camp. They lit their torches and then covered the lights with their jars. At just the right time they blew their trumpets, broke their jars and shouted, "The sword of the Lord and Gideon!"

When the big Midianite army heard the noise and saw the lights, they ran away! God saved His people with only a small army when Gideon obeyed God.