


and in their confusion killed one another. So the Israelites had a great victory over them.

VI. APPLICATION: As Gideon and his three hundred men could not have gained this great victory, unless God had helped them, neither can we gain any victories unless God

**GOD  
GIDEON'S HELPER  
WON VICTORIES FOR HIM**



**WILL  
WIN  
VICTORIES FOR ME IF I TRUST HIM**

helps us. We all have our battles to fight, and victories to gain, victories over enemies that come into our hearts. Selfishness, pride, anger and many others. Unless like Gideon we give these enemies over to God and trust that He will conquer them, we cannot expect to gain the victory. As He loved His children then, and was always ready to win victories for them, so He still loves us His children, and is ever ready and waiting to win victories for us. Let us say as Gideon

trusted in God to help him, so I will trust in God my helper. (Make a shield on the board, and in it write "God my helper.")

### LESSON III—October 20th, 1895.

#### Ruth's Choice. RUTH 1: 14-22.

I. GOLDEN TEXT: "Thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God." Ruth 1: 16.

II. PREVIEW THOUGHT: My choice.

III. REVIEW: What enemies drove the Israelites from their beautiful homes in last lesson? Why did God allow them to do this? When they were sorry for their sins, what did God do? What was the name of the Judge? Who helped him and his little army to gain the victory? Have we any victories to gain? Tell some of them? Can we gain them ourselves? Who will gain them for us? What must we do?

IV. INTERVENING EVENTS: After Gideon's death, the Israelites again went into idolatry, and again had to be punished by God. When they put away the strange gods, and served the Lord, He raised up another judge to deliver them out of the hand of their enemies. Many times and for many years this falling away from God, and again being restored by Him, lasted. After Gideon the 5th judge we have in the book of Judges an account of 8 more. The 13th, and last one mentioned in Judges, being Samson, whose history here is given.

V. LESSON STORY: During the time of the Judges, perhaps in the time of Gideon, (whom we learned about in last lesson), there lived a man called Elimelech, his wife, Naomi, and their two sons, Mahlon and Chilion. There came a great famine and drought in the land, and Elimelech, his wife, and sons could not get enough to eat and drink, and so had to leave their home. They crossed the river Jordan, turned to the south till they came to the land of the Moabites, and lived there. (It would be well to point out these places and trace this journey from a map). During the next ten years Elimelech died, his two sons got married, they both died, and the three widows, Naomi, the mother-in-law, Ruth and Orpah, the daughters-in-law were left. Naomi heard that the famine was over, and she thought that she would like to go home again, for she did not feel happy in the land of the Moabites, where they served idols, and wanted to get back so that among her own people she could better serve the true God. As she got ready to go, Ruth and Orpah said that they would go with her part of the way to see her off. So they did, and when Naomi thought they had gone far enough, she told them they had better return home, and kissed them, and said good bye. Then they began to cry and said they did not want to leave her. Naomi told them that they might feel that way then, but when they got to Bethlehem they might want to go to their own land again, for she was poor and sorrowful, and she thought they had better return then. Orpah began to cry again and kissed her mother-in-law, and turned back, but Ruth would not go. When Naomi told her she had better return with Orpah, she said: "Intreat me not to