

MINI FOLD-OUT BOOKLET for the book of **JUDGES**



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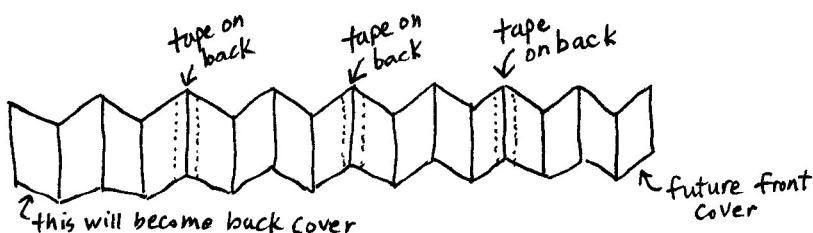
Materials you will need:

- Copies of these pages
- Glue stick (a good one-- I recommend the ones used by adult crafters, not the "school glue" variety)
- Scissors
- White card stock (two pages per booklet)
- Masking tape (could use clear tape if masking is not available)

MAKING THE BLANK BOOKLET:

Step 1: Cut two sheets of white card stock in half lengthwise. Set them end to end and tape the edges together with masking tape. Put the tape on only ONE side (which will become the back side).

Step 2: Fold this strip back and forth, making "accordion" pleats. Be as precise with your folding as possible. The more precise you are the better your booklet will fold up. The fold should divide each card stock strip into exactly four sections, so your final booklet has 16 panels, as shown below.

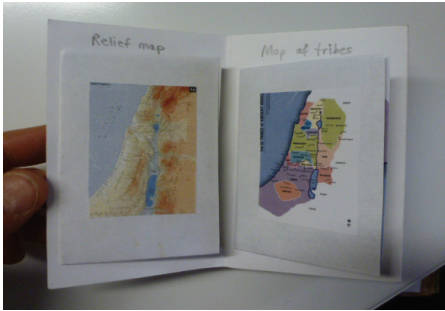


You can use this cover design, shown at right, or you can design your own.

JUDGES



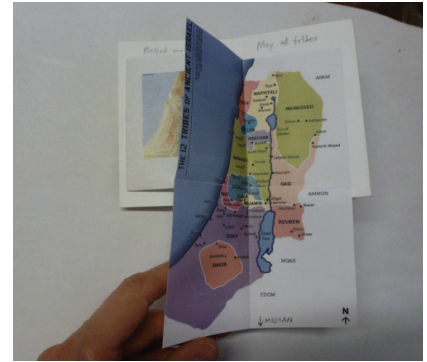
OVERVIEW OF BOOKLET



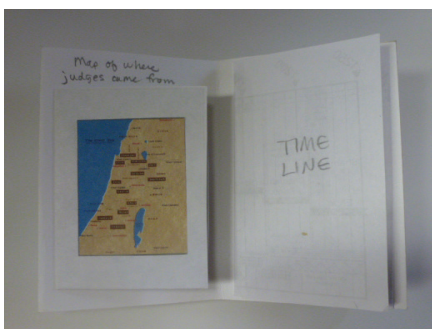
Spread 1: Relief map and map of tribes. The maps fold in half twice, to make them 1/4 original size.



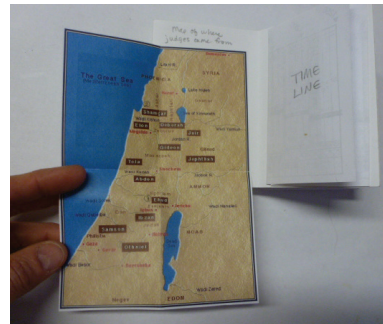
Relief map folded out.



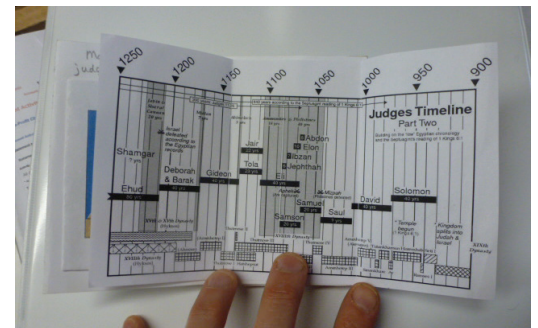
Tribe map folded out.



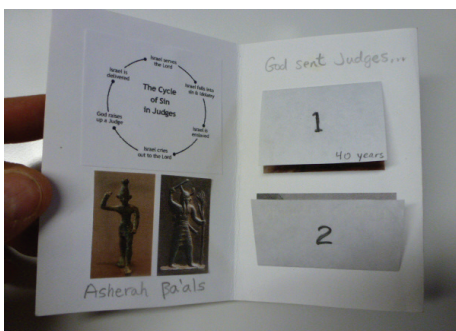
Spread 2: Map of where judges lived, and timeline.



Map of judges folded out.



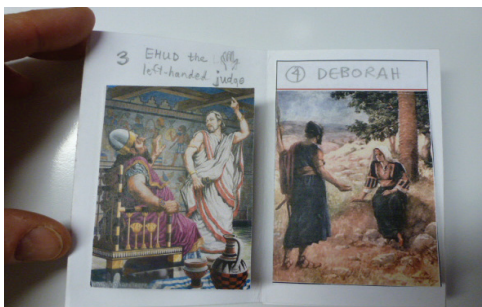
Timeline folded out.
(Fold timeline in thirds)



Spread 3: Left side is sin cycle and pictures of Ba'al and Ashtoreth. Right side: Othniel and Shamgar



Othniel and Shamgar folded out.



Spread 4: Eglon and Ehud on left, Deborah on right.



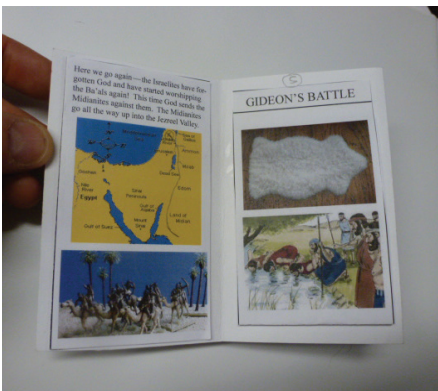
Ehud flap opened.



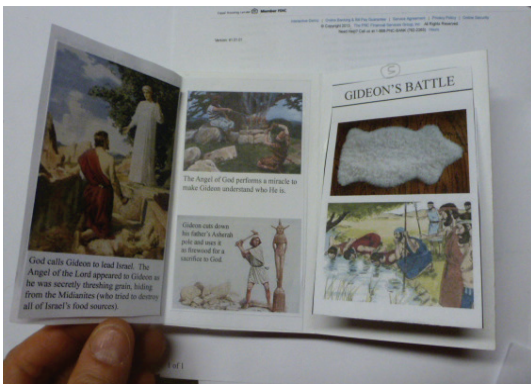
Spread 4 continued: Deborah flap opened



Showing Deborah flaps below the map.



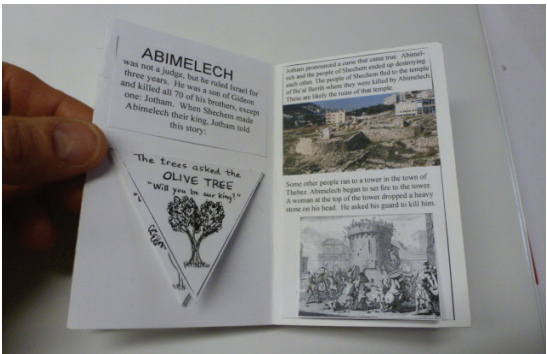
Spread 5: Gideon



Left side opened.



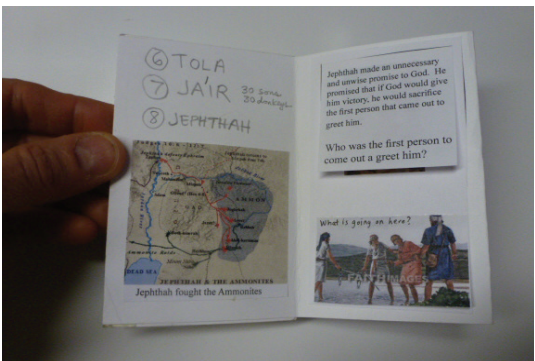
Long vertical fold-out on right side.



Spread 6: Abimelech



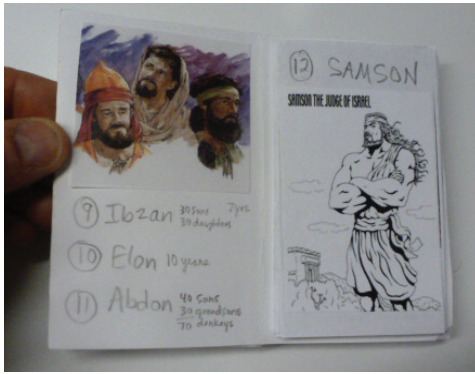
Abimelech triangular flap book.



Spread 7: Tola, Jair, Jephthah



Showing Jephthah flaps opened.



Spread 8: Ibzan, Elon, Abdon, Samson



The Samson booklet “accordions” out.

There is a video showing how all the features pull out of the booklet, posted at www.YouTube.com/TheBasementWorkshop. Click on the “Project Demos” playlist.

SPREAD 1: Relief map and tribal map

Cut out the relief map and the tribal map. Fold them in half then in half again so that they are one-fourth their original size. Glue into booklet so they fold out as shown in the overview pictures. You might want to put a small version of the map on the front (as shown in overview picture) so that you remember which map is which, since they all look the same once they get folded up.

SPREAD 2: Map of where the judges came from, plus the time line

Cut out the judges map and the time line. Fold the judges map into fourths, like two previous maps, but fold the time line into thirds. Glue them into booklet.

SPREAD 3: “Sin cycle” and first two judges: Othniel and Shamgar

Cut out the sin cycle, and the pictures of Ba’al (pronounced Bah-ahl) and his consort, Asherah (also known as Ashtoreth, Ashertorah and other similar names). Glue the sin cycle on top and the false gods below. Label the false gods with their names.

Cut out the pictures of Othniel and Shamgar, fold them in half and glue them in. Write their names and their numbers (1 is Othniel, 2 is Shamgar). There were a total of 12 judges. You can write their names anywhere. You don’t have to make your booklet just like this one. You might also want to write the number of years they judged Israel. Othniel was a judge for 40 years. (The time line can help with the year numbers.)

SPREAD 4: Ehud and Deborah

Cut out the four components of the Ehud picture. Fold the black and white picture of Ehud in half. Fold and glue in the triangular support piece where indicated. See extra photos. Glue sword hand on top.

Glue the colored picture on the front, then Ehud into booklet. Label him with his name and number (3). Deborah:

Cut out the picture of Deborah under the tree and be sure NOT to trim off that white box above it. The white rectangle is part of the flap. Write Deborah's name and number on the white space. This flap will be the last one glued in place.

Cut out the five stacked flaps with captions at the bottom. Stack them with largest on the bottom (Jael) and smallest on the top (chariot). Line up the top edges and glue them in place. Glue this into booklet, then glue the Deborah under the tree flap on top.

Cut out the map, fold it in half and glue it on the reverse side of the Deborah under tree flap.

SPREAD 5: GIDEON

Refer to the pictures on the previous overview pages to see how the Gideon pictures fit together.

SPREAD 6: Abimelech

Abimelech was not officially a judge, though there is a long story about him. He did not fight against foreign enemies, but rather stirred up trouble within Israel.

Cut out the two triangular pieces and glue them back-to-back. (The olive, fig and grape triangles should be matched up back-to-back.) Then fold the triangle flaps, making sure the olive tree ends up on the front. Glue into booklet underneath the paragraph about Abimelech.

Cut out the info page and glue it on the right side. Cut the small flap showing the tower scene and put it over the bottom picture showing Abimelech's death.

* * * * *

Extra activity for Abimelech story: See the "Reader's Theatre" version of the story printed at the end of this packet.

* * * * *

SPREAD 7: Tola, Ja'ir, Jephthah

Left side: Cut out the map and glue it on the bottom of the left side. Write the names and numbers of the judges on the top of the left side: 6) Tola, 7) Ja'ir, 8) Jephthah

Right side: Glue rectangle with daughter picture to the right hand page. Then add two flaps. Glue the "Jephthah made an unnecessary promise" paragraph on top of the daughter, and the picture of the men crossing the river on top of the Shibboleth paragraph.

SPREAD 8: Ibzan, Elon, Abdon and Samson

Left side: Cut out the picture of the three judges (purplish background) and glue it at the top of the left side. Write the names of 9) Ibzan, 10) Elon and 11) Abdon underneath the picture. If you can write with very small letters, you can add extra info about them (number of years, number of children).

Right side: Samson booklet that has accordion folds just like main booklet (an accordion booklet inside an accordion booklet!)

Cut out the four story strips for the story of Samson.

Strip 1: Manoah and wife, Samson with a woman, fighting lion, with parents

Strip 2: At feast giving riddle, fighting with donkey jaw

Strip 3: Carrying city gates, with Delilah, grinding grain

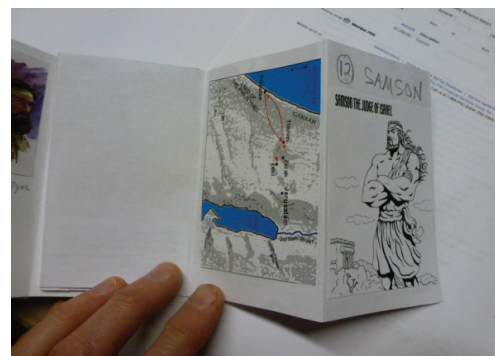
Strip 4: Just one picture-- pushing down the temple pillars

Strips 1, 2 and 3 include glue tabs.

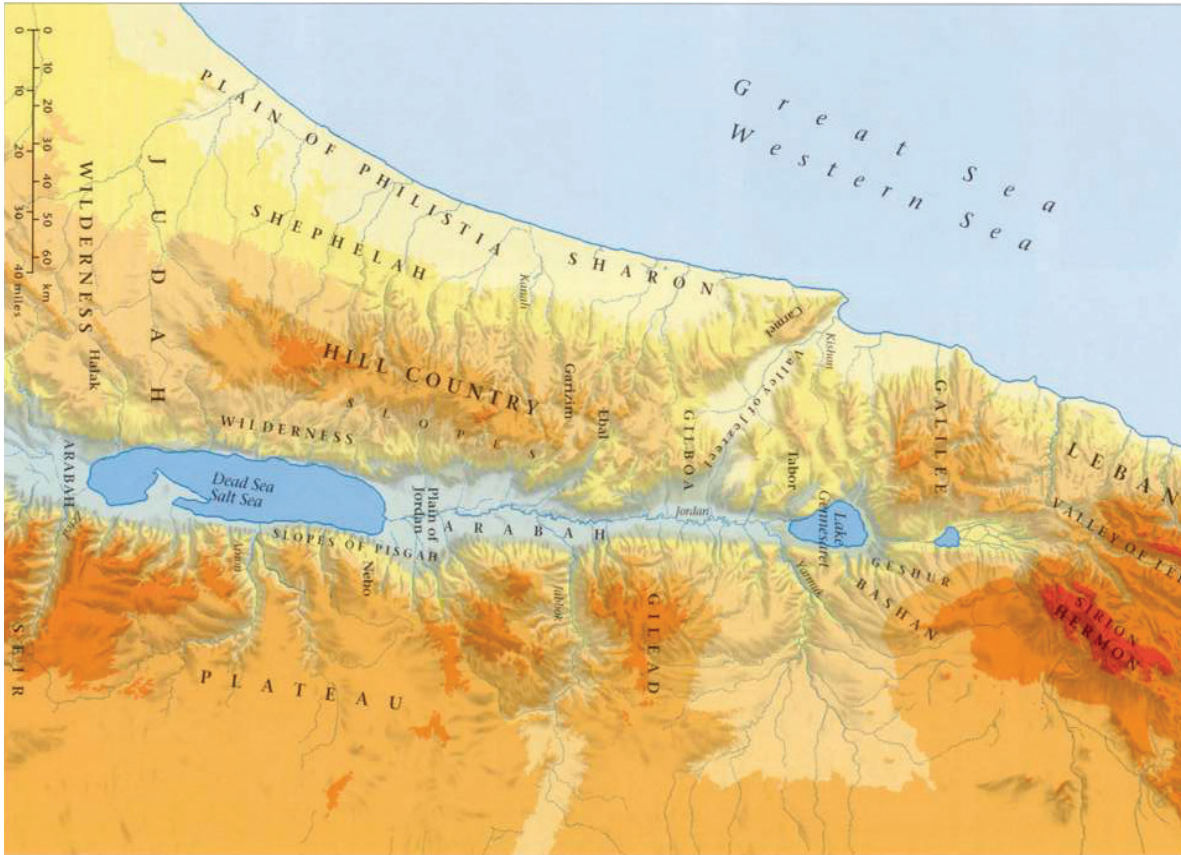
Put the strips end to end, and use glue tabs to make them into one long strip.

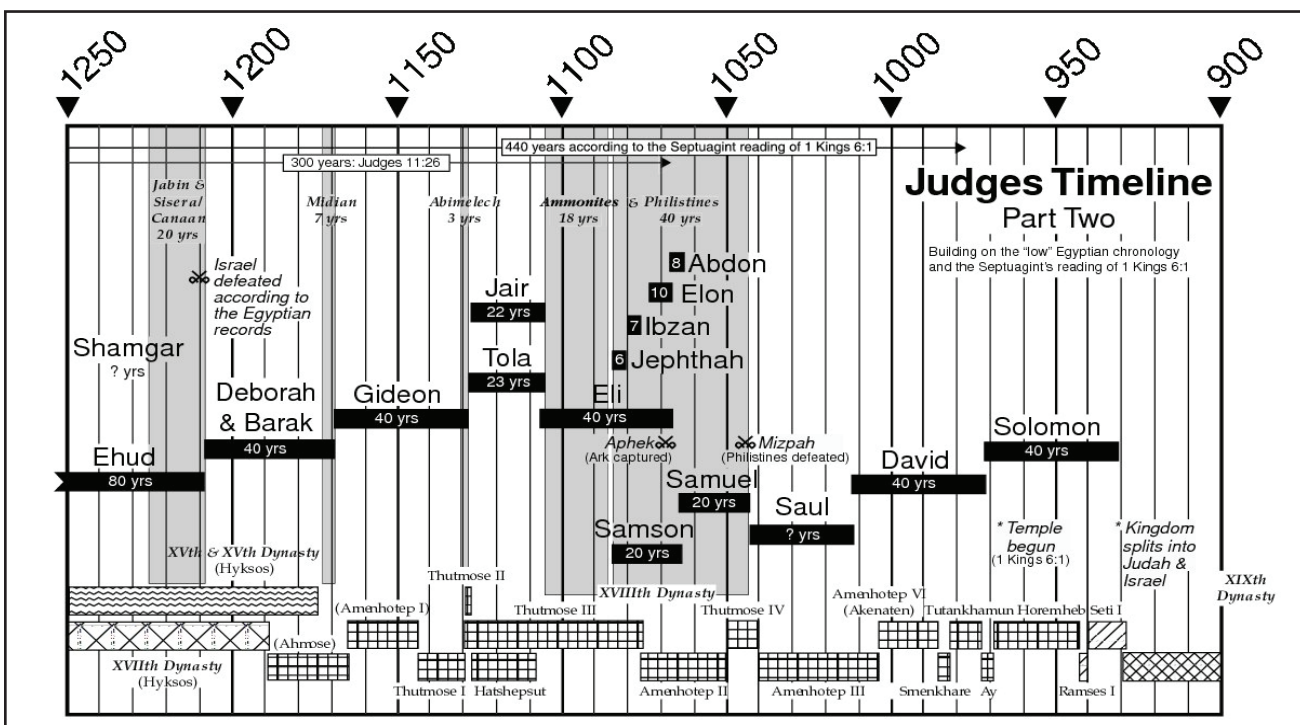
Fold them accordion-style. The picture of Samson pushing down the temple pillars will be the last page and will be glued onto the booklet. The story strip will end up with a blank side on the front. Write Samson's name and number (12) on this page and glue on the black and white picture of Samson (or draw your own).

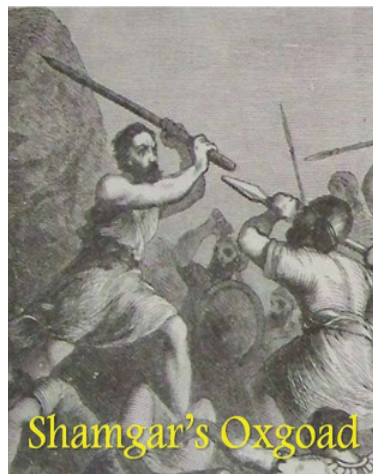
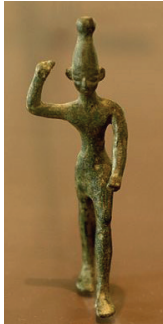
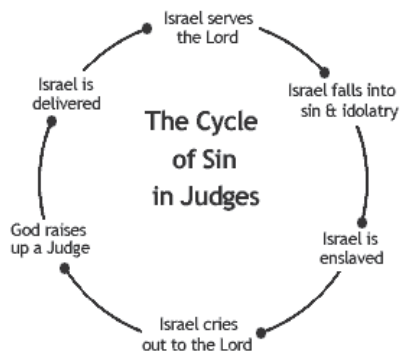
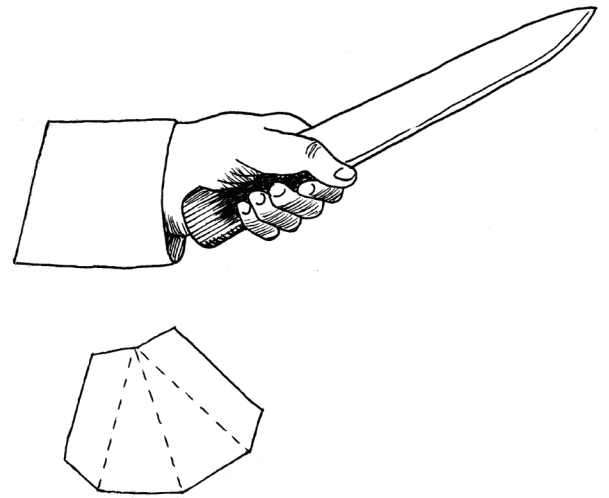
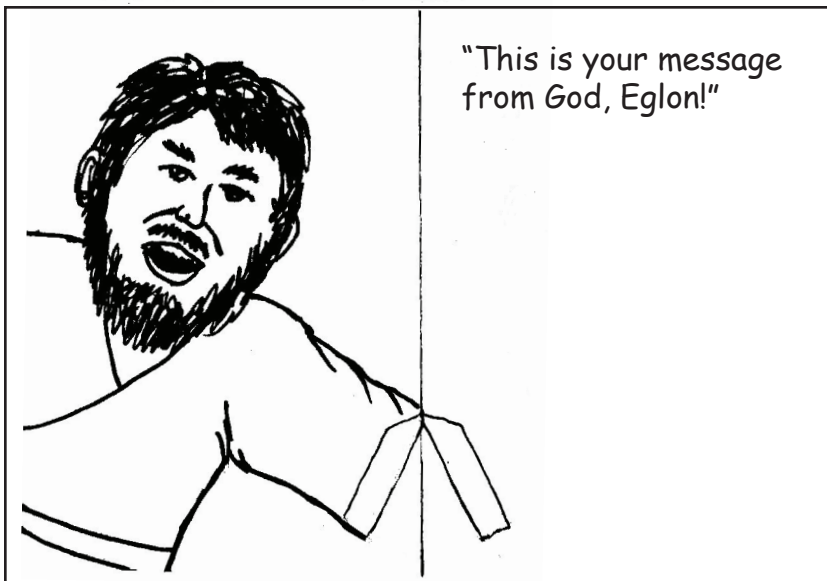
Optional: Add the map to the reverse side of page.



MAPS:







These pictures let you see how the triangular support piece fits in under Ehud's hand.

Write Deborah's name and # in this white space. Do NOT trim it off.



Jael is bottom flap. Glue the Sisera picture on top of this one.
Glue only at very top edges. See assembly picture below.

A SECOND WOMAN HERO



WHAT HAPPENED TO SISERA

Jael was a Kenite, the Midianite tribe that Moses' wife Zipporah was from. The Kenites had followed the Israelites into Canaan.



COMMANDER SISERA RAN AND HID

This chariot picture is the top flap.



BARAK INSISTED THAT DEBORAH GO OUT TO WAR WITH THEM



BARAK GATHERED HIS TROOPS AT MOUNT TABOR

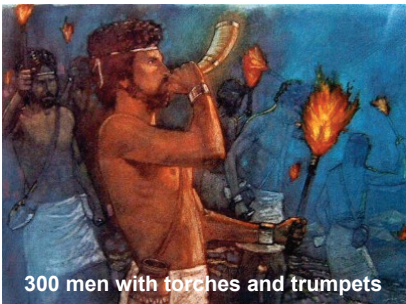


THE ENEMY HAD IRON CHARIOTS



Close up view of flaps. The bottom flap (which picture of Jael) gets glued onto booklet page.

Write Gideon's name and # here

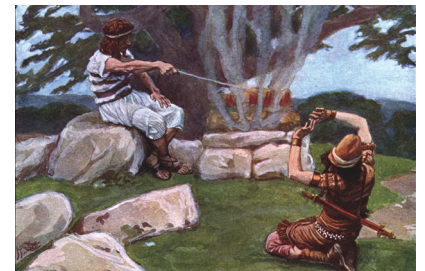


300 men with torches and trumpets

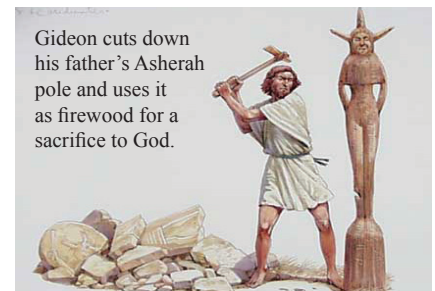


God calls Gideon to lead Israel. The Angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon as he was secretly threshing grain, hiding from the Midianites (who tried to destroy all of Israel's food sources).

Here we go again—the Israelites have forgotten God and have started worshipping the Ba'als again! This time God sends the Midianites against them. The Midianites go all the way up into the Jezreel Valley.



The Angel of God performs a miracle to make Gideon understand who He is.



Gideon cuts down his father's Asherah pole and uses it as firewood for a sacrifice to God.

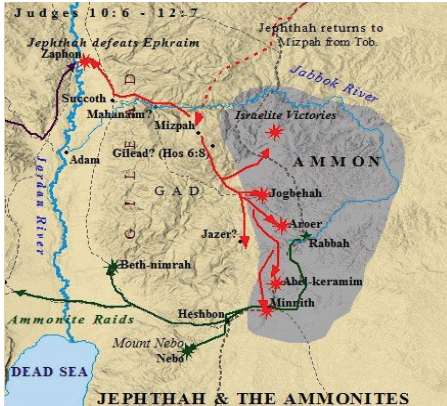


Chaos in the Midianite camp

Refer to pictures on overview page for assembly instructions. This extra picture on left can be glued on the reverse side of the vertical strip, or it can be omitted (not used). I had my students write the names of the conquered kings on the back--Oreb and Zeeb.

ABIMELECH

was not a judge, but he ruled Israel for three years. He was a son of Gideon and killed all 70 of his brothers, except one: Jotham. When Shechem made Abimelech their king, Jotham told this story:



Jephthah fought the Ammonites



Glue this picture flap on top of paragraph about Shibboleth. The top edge should be right under the question "What is going on here?"

Jotham pronounced a curse that came true. Abimelech and the people of Shechem ended up destroying each other. The people of Shechem fled to the temple of Ba'al Berith where they were killed by Abimelech. These are likely the ruins of that temple.

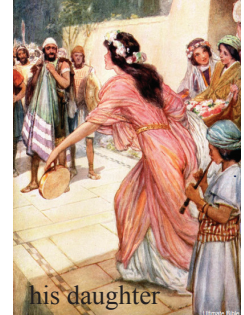


Some other people ran to a tower in the town of Thebez. Abimelech began to set fire to the tower. A woman at the top of the tower dropped a heavy stone on his head. He asked his guard to kill him.



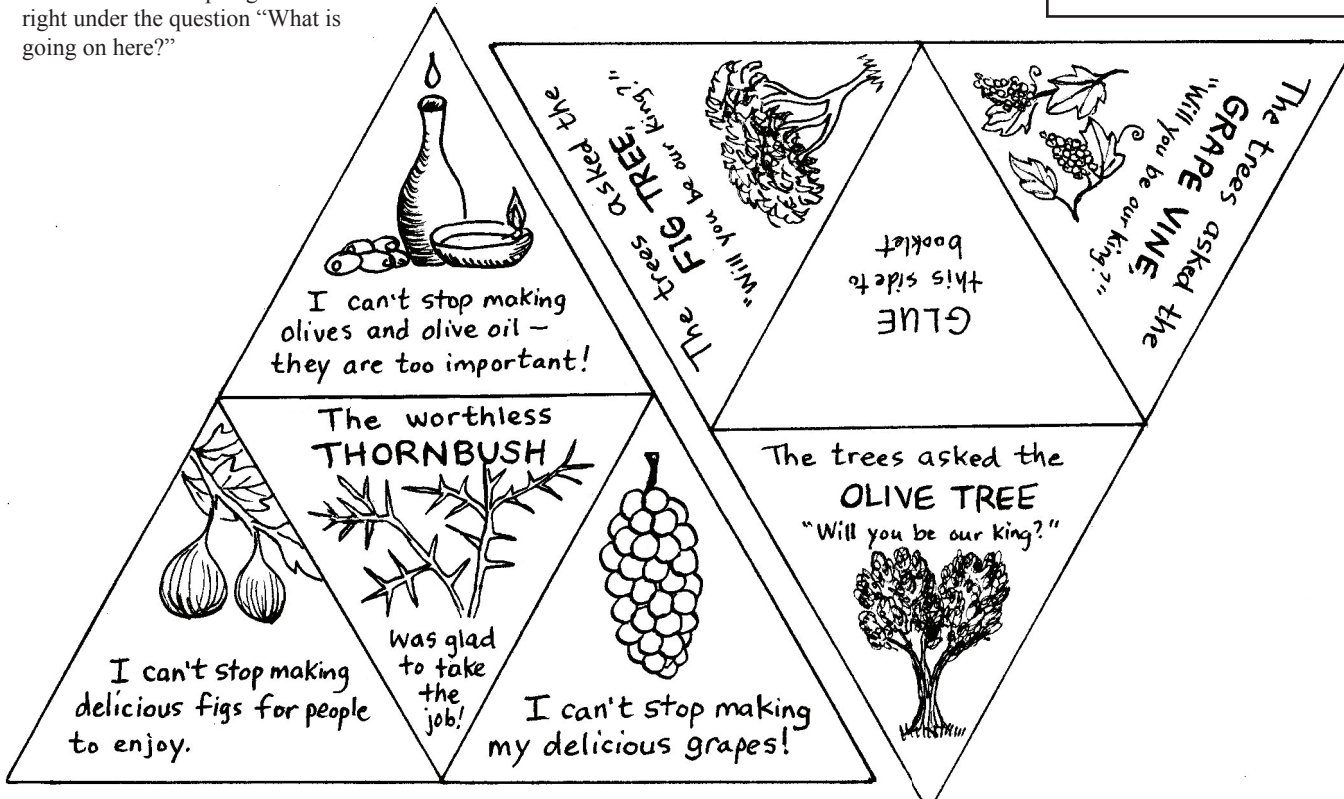
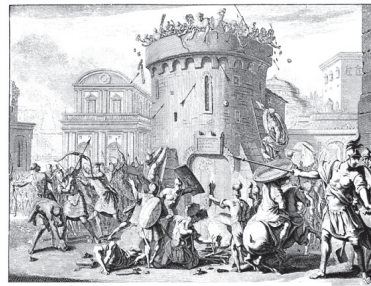
Jephthah made an unnecessary and unwise promise to God. He promised that if God would give him victory, he would sacrifice the first person that came out to greet him.

Who was the first person to come out a greet him?



What is going on here?

Jephthah quarreled with the Ephraimites and a war started. When Ephraimite soldiers tried to sneak home after the war, they were stopped at the River Jordan and asked to say "Shibboleth." They could only say "Sibboleth." Thus, they were caught and executed.



Glue this flap on top of daughter picture.



Samson's birth was announced by an angel who came to visit Manoah and his wife. The angel said that their son was to be a Nazarite.



As an adult, Samson was always falling in love with women who were not Israelites. This was wrong, but God used these situations to punish the Philistines.

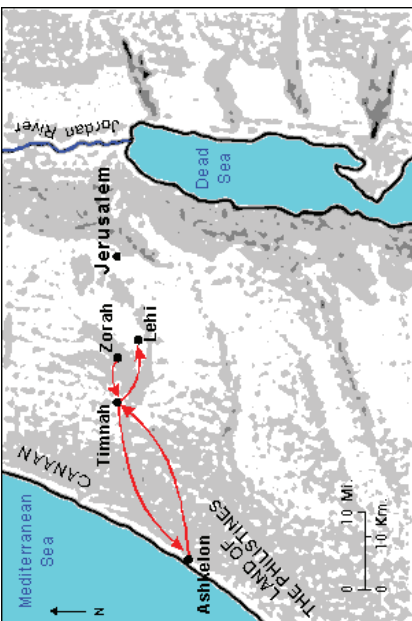


One day Samson killed a lion. But he did not tell anyone. Later he went back and found the lion carcass and discovered a nest of bees with combs full of honey.

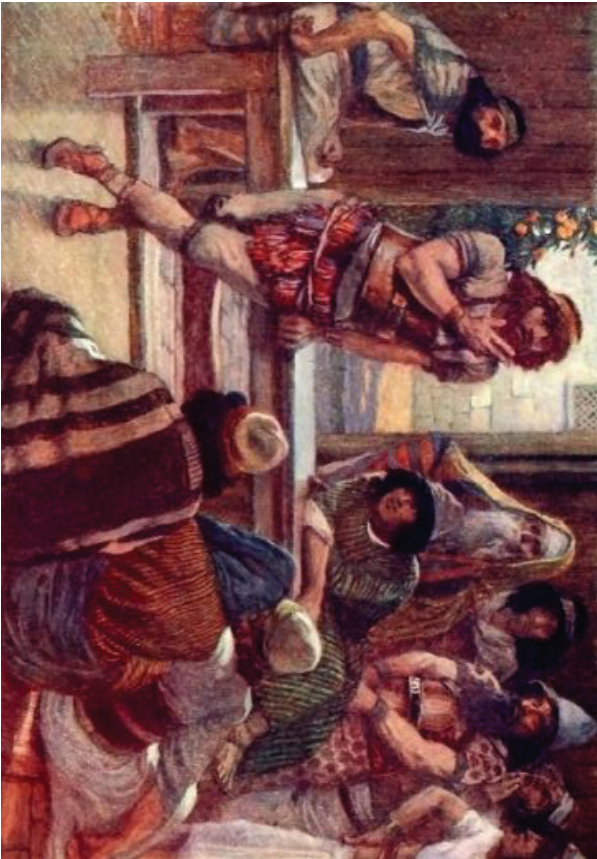


Samson gave his parents some of the honey but did not tell them where it came from. Then he told his parents to arrange his marriage with a Philistine girl. They were sad, but they agreed to do it.

glue tab



Optional map



Samson's wedding feast lasted 7 days. On the first day he made a bet with his guests that they would not be able to guess his riddle. "Out of the eater came something to eat, out of the strong came something sweet." His wife coaxed the answer out of him and told the guests, making Samson lose the bet. He was so angry he killed 30 Philistines and used their fancy clothes to pay off his debt. Then he went back to his father's house.



Another time, the Philistines thought they had trapped him in a city and were waiting until morning to kill him. Samson left in the middle of the night, taking the locked gates with him!



The Philistines killed Samson's wife and her father to get revenge for Samson's treatment of them (the fiery foxes and another round of killing).. The Spirit of God came upon Samson and he was able to kill 1,000 men using only a donkey's jaw bone.

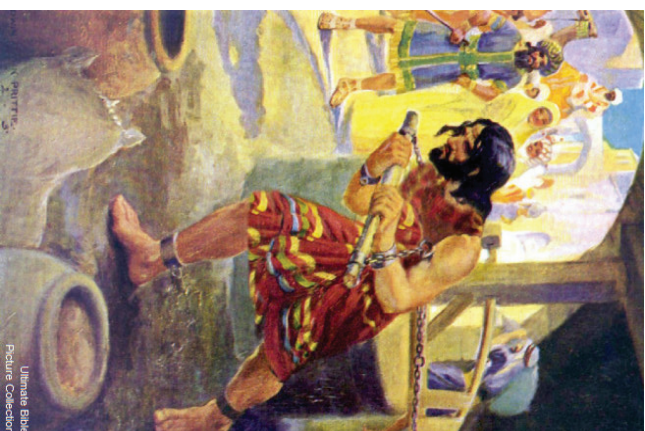


A woman named Delilah really got Samson into trouble. She was determined to find out the secret of his super strength. She begged and begged until he finally told her it was his Nazirite vow represented by his long hair. She called in a man to cut off his hair while he was sleeping. His super strength left him.

glue tab



Some time later, Samson was brought into the temple of Dagon so the Philistines could rejoice in their victory over him. Samson asked God to give him strength one last time and he made the temple collapse.



glue tab

The Philistines gouged out his eyes and put him in prison. In the prison he was made to turn the mill to grind grain.

THE SAD STORY OF ABIMELECH

A reader's theater version of Judges chapter 9

CAST:

NARRATOR (16 lines)	OLIVE TREE (1 line)
GIDEON (1 line)	FIG TREE (1 line)
ABIMELECH (10 lines)	VINES (1 line)
CITIZEN OF SHECHEM (5 lines)	THORNBUSH (1 line)
ANOTHER CITIZEN (3 lines)	GA'AL (say "Guh-ahl") (3 lines)
JOTHAM (4 lines)	ZEBUL (3 lines)
	MESSENGER (3 lines)

NARRATOR: After Gideon's great victory over the Midianites, the Israelites asked him to be their king.

GIDEON: No, I will not be your king. Not me, and not any of my sons. God shall rule over you

NARRATOR: As long as Gideon was alive, the land had peace. Gideon lived to be a very old man and had many children during his lifetime. His wives bore him 71 sons and certainly many daughters, as well. 70 of these sons were treated like princes. But one son was different. His mother was from the town of Shechem, situated in the valley between Mount Gerazim and Mount Ebal. She was not considered to be a proper wife, and therefore her son, Abimelech, was not considered worthy of any inheritance from his father. Abimelech's name meant "my father is the king," a concept he took to heart after his father, Gideon, died. He went to his mother's relatives in Shechem and asked them a question.

ABIMELECH: Go out and ask the citizens of Shechem this question: which is better for you—to have all 70 of Gideon's sons rule over you, or just one man? Remember, my mother is from Shechem. I am your flesh and blood.

NARRATOR: And thus they did. The citizens of Shechem discussed the possibility of making Abimelech their leader.

CITIZEN OF SHECHEM: Well, he is related to us, after all. None of Gideon's other sons are from Shechem. Maybe we should let Abimelech be our leader.

ANOTHER CITIZEN: He'll need soldiers and supplies. It might be expensive.

CITIZEN OF SHECHEM: I know where to get money. Our local temple of Ba'al has lots of money.

NARRATOR: So the citizens of Shechem gave Abimelech 70 shekels of silver from the temple of Ba'al and with this money he went and hired a bunch of reckless adventurers who agreed to be his little army.

ABIMELECH: The first item of business is to get rid of my competition. And by that, I mean my 70 brothers. Come and help me dispose of them.

NARRATOR: So they did. They killed all of Gideon's other sons. Except one. The youngest one, named Jotham, managed to escape.

ABIMELECH: And now, it's time for my coronation! Tell all the citizens of Shechem to meet me at the sacred pillar.

NARRATOR: When Jotham, the son who escaped, heard about the coronation ceremony, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerazim, which overlooked the town of Shechem. He shouted from the top of the mountain and no doubt they were a bit surprised at what he said. He told them a story.

JOTHAM: Listen to me, citizens of Shechem, so that God may listen you. One day the trees went out to anoint a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, "Be our king!" But the olive tree said...

OLIVE TREE: Why should I give up making oil? My oil is used to honor both gods and men. Why should I give up this important job just to be your king?

JOTHAM: So then the trees went to the fig tree and said, "Be our king!" But the fig tree said...

FIG TREE: Why should I give up making my delicious fruit just to boss around a bunch of trees?

JOTHAM: Then the trees went to the grape vines. They said to the vines, "Please, be our king." But the vines answered:

VINES: Why should we give up making our sweet juice? We bring cheer to so many people. Why should we give this up in order to tell the trees what to do?

JOTHAM: Finally, the trees went and asked the thornbush. They said to the thornbush, "Will you be our king?" The thorn bush answered:

THORNBUSH: If you really want me to be your king, then come and take refuge in my shade. But if not, then let fire come out of the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon! Citizens of Shechem, have you forgotten what my father did for you? He risked his life to save you from the Midianite armies! Did he deserve to have all his sons killed? And now you have made this reckless man your leader only because he is related to you. If you have acted honorably towards Gideon's family, then may God bless you and your new king. But if not, then let fire come out from Abimelech and consume you! And may fire from Shechem come out and consume Abimelech!

NARRATOR: Then Jotham ran away and went and lived far away from Abimelech, for fear of him. After Abimelech had ruled over Israel for three years, God sent an evil spirit to make trouble between Abimelech and the people of Shechem. First, some trouble makers began hiding in the hills and ambushing and robbing passersby. Since Abimelech was in charge, this made him look bad. Abimelech was not happy when he heard the report of what they were doing. Then God brought a big-time trouble maker into town: a man named Ga'al. Ga'al his brothers moved into Shechem and convinced the citizens that he was a better leader than Abimelech was.

CITIZEN OF SHECHEM: I'm really impressed with Ga'al. He's strong and brave.

ANOTHER CITIZEN: Yeah, I think I'll vote for him next time we get to choose a king.

NARRATOR: During the grape harvesting season, the citizens held a feast in the temple of their god. While they were eating and drinking, they cursed Abimelech.

CITIZEN OF SHECHEM: Abimelech's not the man we thought he was.

ANOTHER CITIZEN: Yeah, he's pretty wimpy. In fact, I hate him, don't you?

CITIZEN OF SHECHEM: Come to think of it, we all hate him, don't we?

NARRATOR: Then Ga'al stood up and addressed the citizens.

GA'AL: Citizens of Shechem, who is Abimelech that you should follow him? Why do you even care that he is Gideon's son? Phooey on Gideon, he's not from Shechem! His only tie to Shechem is through his mother. A mere woman! Why don't you choose a leader whose father and grandfather are Shechemites? Curse Abimelech and get someone else! Oh, if only I could get rid of Abimelech for you. I'm not afraid of him. I'd say to Abimelech, "Call out your whole army against me! I dare you!"

NARRATOR: When Zebul, the governor of the city heard about what Ga'al had said, he was very angry. He sent a messenger to Abimelech to warn him.

MESSENGER: Abimelech, I have a message from Zebul, the governor. There is trouble in the city. Ga'al and his brothers are stirring up the people to revolt. During the night, you and your men should come and lie wait in the fields. In the morning, advance against the city.

ABIMELECH: Thank you for your report. I will consider Zebul's advice.

NARRATOR: Abimelech decided to take Zebul's advice and he and his men set out my night and hid in secret locations outside of the city. In the morning, Ga'al and Zebul went out and stood at the entrance to the city gate. Ga'al looked at the hills and thought he saw people moving around.

GA'AL: Zebul, look! Do you see what I see? It looks like there are men moving about on the hills.

ZEBUL: No, you must be mistaken. It's just the shadows of trees in the early morning light.

GA'AL: No, really, I'm sure I see men coming from over there! And over there, too!

ZEBUL: Well, well, well. Where is your big talk now? Didn't you just recently brag that you would be

glad to take on Abimelech's whole army? So go out and fight them!

NARRATOR: So Ga'al rallied the citizens of Shechem and they went out to fight Abimelech. Ga'al lost the battle and was chased out of town. But now what would Abimelech do about the citizens of Shechem? They had betrayed Abimelech.

ABIMELECH: I'll get my revenge on the Shechemites!

NARRATOR: The next day, the people of Shechem went out into the fields. Abimelech decided this was the time to attack.

ABIMELECH: Men, arrange yourselves into three companies and lie in ambush. Wait for my signal.

NARRATOR: At the signal, one of the companies ran to the city gate to block it. The other two attacked all the people in the fields. Then Abimelech turned to attack the people inside the city. He not only killed all the people, but also destroyed the city and scattered salt all over it so nothing would grow there for a long time.

MESSENGER: Abimelech, a group of citizens has escaped. They are hiding in the large fortress inside the temple of their god.

ABIMELECH: They think they can escape, eh? I'll get them, too. Men, go out and cut down lots of tree branches and follow me to the fortress.

NARRATOR: So they all cut branches and carried them to the fortress.

ABIMELECH: Pile the branches against the building and set them on fire!

NARRATOR: About a thousand people were trapped inside the temple. They all burned to death. But Abimelech was still angry. He went on to another town close by. The people of the town all ran to a strong tower in the middle of the city. They locked themselves in the tower to try to keep Abimelech out. Many of them climbed the stairs to the top of the tower and some went up on the roof.

MESSENGER: Why don't we burn down the tower?

ABIMELECH: Good idea. Start piling the wood!

NARRATOR: Just as Abimelech was about to set fire to the wood, a woman who was standing at the very top of the tower pushed a big, heavy millstone off the roof. The stone landed right on Abimelech.

ABIMELECH: Ahhh! I've been mortally wounded by a woman! I don't want to let a woman kill me!

Quick, one of you men stab me with your sword so no one can say I was killed by a woman!

NARRATOR: And that was the end of Abimelech. When the Israelites saw that Abimelech was dead, they all went home. And thus, everyone got what they deserved. The curse pronounced by Jotham, son of Gideon, came true. Both Abimelech and the people of Shechem were repaid for the wickedness they had done.