



The Christian Methodist Episcopal Church Department of Christian Education

MAKING DISCIPLES through "events that FORM and TRANSFORM"

Sunday School Lessons

Unit One

"Called To Be Strong"

June 2017



We are providing these notes from the Committee on Uniform Series that prepares associated Sunday School lesson outlines long in advance of their usage. Included in this Guide are thoughts that are reflected in the Lesson Development Guide for writers of Sunday school lessons and the recommended commentary of the Department of Christian Education, The New International Lesson Annual published by Abingdon Press Nashville, Tennessee.

During the Summer quarter, we are exploring "The Call." The lessons focus on God calling individuals to do certain work or to take on certain vocations. The quarter is entitled **Faith in Action: Healing and Heeding The Call**. During this quarter we discover that the calling God gives each person is distinct, however, God's calling of individuals into service has a recognizable pattern that reveals much about the nature of that call. This quarter we see God's call as intrusion into our lives. We will look at lessons about The Call of the Judges, The Call of the Prophets, and The Call of God in Acts. Unit One is entitled "Called To Be Strong."

Dr. Carmichael Crutchfield
General Secretary



People called to be leaders may question the motives of their supporters. How do these leaders know if their supporters' motives are sincere? Jephthah discussed the inconsistencies in the behavior of his supporters and established conditions for his leadership.

Goal for the Learners

- ✓ To acknowledge that people who have had disagreements can unite to defeat a common foe.
- ✓ To feel remorse for alienating others.
- ✓ To consider the importance of reaching "a meeting of the minds" on motives and expected outcomes before accepting a leadership role.

Lesson Challenges for the Week

- Keep an eye on issues causing gridlock in local or national politics, especially where elected officials with polarized views are unable to compromise to serve the common good. Do you see any current examples of such a failure in leadership? If so, how might an understanding of godly ways to trust people with whom they have disagreed enable elected officials to move forward?
- Read *Violence In Scripture* by Jerome F. D. Creach, who is the writer of this quarter's lessons. Chapter 5, "Judges' Use of Violence," includes a discussion of "Jephthah and the Sacrifice of His Daughter." This insightful book is part of the Interpretation series, published by Westminster John Knox Press.
- Take steps to rebuild trust with a person from whom you have been alienated. Perhaps this person is a leader with whom you have had disagreements.



Send an email to:

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to receive this guide electronically each week.

