



greaterlove

# IDEAS FOR TEENS

## FEAR NOT ... FOR I AM WITH YOU (Isaiah 41v10)

There is a lot of material to do with WW1 in this pack and interviews with military personnel and their families that you could use. You will need to gauge what is suitable to show to the children according to their age and stage.

There are also several web based resources which have been developed specifically for the centenary including this one: [military-research.co.uk/great-war](http://military-research.co.uk/great-war) and one from the BBC: [bbc.co.uk/ww1](http://bbc.co.uk/ww1)

## INTRO/GAMES

A lot of the younger age group material can be adapted for the teens. Make good use of the rest of the pack with this age group – stats and interviews etc. There is a breakdown of what each video looks at in the booklet that goes with the DVD.

You could use the following phobias for the Pictionary/Rapidough game:

- Fear of mirrors (Spectrophobia)
- Fear of kissing (Philemaphobia)
- Fear of belly buttons (Omphalophobia)
- Fear of vegetables (Lachanophobia)
- Fear of Church (Ecclesiophobia)
- Fear of vacuum cleaners (Zuigerphobia)
- Fear of being out of mobile phone contact (Nomophobia)
- Fear of washing or bathing (Ablutophobia)
- Fear of opening one's eyes (Optophobia)
- Fear of smells or odours (Osmophobia)

Just for fun ...

Some people have Ephebiphobia – the fear of teenagers  
Hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia – fear of long words!

## BIBLE

### Gideon (Judges 6 & 7)

Watch: 'Gideon Bible Story' ([youtube.com/watch?v=ct7N6mn6gRE](http://youtube.com/watch?v=ct7N6mn6gRE))\*

Brave people in the bible had fears too. Lets read about one such man ... Judges 6 v 11-32

Q. What does the angel of the Lord call Gideon in Judges 6 v 12? *"The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."* Gideon was not a mighty warrior - he was a farmer! Maybe God had got the wrong person? Gideon clearly thinks so ... Judges 6 v 15: *"How can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest and I am the least in my family."*

Q. Be encouraged by the story of Gideon. If you are afraid, you are normal. You may feel afraid, weak and unimportant but God isn't necessarily looking for courageous people. He is



looking for obedient people. So when God speaks, are you willing to obey Him and step out in faith?

Gideon wasn't a mighty warrior at first, but he became one because he did what God asked. His first task (Judges 6 v 25-27) was to tear down his Father's altar to Baal and we read that he was so afraid of his family and the men of the town, that he did it at night rather than in the daytime.

The church is remembering 100 years since WW1; sadly millions of lives have been lost in war. There is a time for war, and Gideon was God's man during a time of war. Some people are called to fight a physical war; you may never be asked to do that. However, God may be calling you to be a different kind of warrior – a peacemaker – to “war” against injustice. This takes great courage. You may have to overcome your fears in order to stand up for someone being bullied at school, to speak up when you see people being mean to others, to protect those weaker than yourself.

Q. How are you going to be a peacemaker? How will you help develop a sense of wellbeing and harmony in your own life? What social problems move you to want to make a difference? Remember, even when you feel like you're the last person in the world who is cut out to be a peacemaker, think about Gideon's story and God's promise of peace, strength, and courage.

## WAR STORIES

Use some of the videos in this pack to illustrate fear and God's protection.

And/Or [The Angel of Mons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angels_of_Mons) story perhaps? Lots can be found about this online ([wikipedia.org/wiki/Angels\\_of\\_Mons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angels_of_Mons))

## DISCUSSION

Some fears are legitimate (like a soldier's fear of being shot!) and some are irrational.

Q. What are you afraid of? How do you respond to rational and irrational fear?

Q. What do you think God thinks about fear?

Q. How can you rely on God to take care of your fears?

## PRAY

This age group can have a lot of worries and fears; it can be a difficult transitional phase of life. Worries about the future ... exams, jobs, relationships, insecurities about appearance etc ... allow more time for discussion and if your group is open to it, maybe they could pray for each other in smaller groups.

\* check you have the relevant CCLI licence to show film clips in public