**Paradox** - A seemingly absurd or self-contradictory statement or proposition that when investigated or explained may prove to be well founded or true.

## <u>Gideon</u>

**Judges 6:22** Now Gideon perceived that He was the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face."

- Faith is strongest and best played out in personal relationship with God
- This is really a story about our faith in the context and covering of God's faithfulness
- God is OK with making concessions to our hearts' lack of faith to complete His work
- Faith is contagious and confidence building

## <u>Barak</u>

**Judges 4:14** Then Deborah said to Barak "Up! For this *is* the day in which the Lord has delivered Sisera into your hand. Has not the Lord gone out before you?" So Barak went down from Mount Tabor with ten thousand men following him.

• Even little faith is enough to fight when the Lord has already won the battle

## <u>Samson</u>

**Judges 16:28** Then Samson called to the Lord, saying, "O Lord God, remember me, I pray! Strengthen me, I pray, just this once, O God, that I may with one blow take vengeance on the Philistines for my two eyes!"

• Even when our lives are not perfect demonstrations of faith, the spark is always there

## <u>Jephtha</u>

Judges 11:1 Now Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty man of valor, but he was the son of a harlot Judges 11:24 ...So whatever the Lord our God takes possession of before us, we will possess.

• True faith is unconditional - It just believes without putting any conditions on God

"The more established and of the world this faith becomes, the weaker its spiritual power. But the more separate from the world it becomes, the greater its spiritual power. Apply this to your life. Disentangle yourself from all compromise, from worldliness, and from status quo. And you will grow in spiritual power. Remember, this faith, in its truest and natural form, is always radical and revolutionary." Jonathan Cahn The Book of Mysteries