

**What word defines you?**

**Our legacy isn't what we want it to be; it's what we choose it to be.**

**What word defines you?**

*"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; they merely determine where you start." —Nido Qubein*

*Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD, and for seven years he gave them into the hands of the Midianites. Because the power of Midian was so oppressive, the Israelites prepared shelters for themselves in mountain clefts, caves, and strongholds...Midian so impoverished the Israelites that they cried out to the LORD for help. **Judges 6:1,2,6***

*The angel of the LORD came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. **Judges 6:11***

**1) The first characteristic of a high-powered, difference-making person is knee-knocking, teeth-chattering fear.**

**Judges 6:11,12:**

*When the angel of the LORD appeared to Gideon, he said, "The LORD is with you, mighty warrior."*

**God sees qualities in you that you don't even see.**

**2) The second characteristic of a high-powered, difference-making person is paralyzing doubt.**

*"But sir," Gideon replied, "if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our fathers told us about when they said, 'Did not the LORD bring us up out of Egypt? But now the LORD has abandoned us and put us into the hand of Midian.'" **Judges 6:13***

*The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?" (Judges 6:14)*

**The strength you currently have is enough to do what God is calling you to do.**

### **3) The Third Characteristic of a High-Powered, Difference-Making Person is Crippling Insecurity**

*"But Lord," Gideon asked, "how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." The LORD answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together." Gideon replied, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, give me a sign that it is really you talking to me." Judges 6:15-17*

*"The fleece was not a sign of Gideon's faith. God had already called him — Gideon knew what he was supposed to do. The fleece was an expression of resistance. God responds to the fleece not as an affirmation of Gideon's faith but as a concession to Gideon's doubt." John Ortberg*

**Your resume and family history, however uninspiring, are enough for God to use you.**

### **4) The Fourth Characteristic of a High-Powered, Difference-Making Person is Lack of Adequate Support**

*A hundred and twenty thousand swordsmen had fallen that day. Judges 8:10*

**If you feel like you don't have enough strength, supplies, or smarts to pull off your current task, then you are just where God wants you.**

**"Can I be used by God?" Checklist:**

- Do you have knee-knocking, teeth-chattering fear?

- Do you have paralyzing doubt?
- Do you have crippling insecurity?
- Are you inadequately supplied?

## What word defines you?

**We make our biggest impact when we join God in what He is doing.**

*“The most productive decade of a person’s life is their 60’s. The second most productive decade of a person’s life is their 70’s. The third most productive is your 50’s, and your 50’s are just setting you up for your 60’s.” Bob Biehl, Decade by Decade*

*“What people in the fourth quarter are being told is ‘Thank you for coming to our church. We appreciate your giving. But we don’t need you anymore. So why don’t you go play?’” —Dave Rhodes*

The screenshot shows the Amazon website interface. At the top, the Amazon Prime logo is on the left, and the delivery location is set to Jack Glendale 85308. The search bar contains the text "your picture is on his refrigerator bool". Below the search bar, there are navigation links for All, Same-Day Delivery, Medical Care, Prime, Groceries, Amazon Home, Pharmacy, Amazon Basics, and Buy A. The search results show 1 result for "your picture is on his refrigerator book".

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*The first message I ever gave in big church was on Psalm 127 and 128 that starts with the line, "Unless the Lord builds the house," and ends with, "May he live to see his children's children." It has been my lifelong dream to exchange the dysfunction I grew up with for function in my family. I'm sure I didn't do it all right, but despite my familial flaws, I managed to get a front row seat to see four children come into my house and exceed my every expectation.*

**What is the one word you want people to think about when they think of you?**