

## Chapter 8

After Gideon defeated all the enemies of the Israelites, the Israelites asked him to be their ruler.

He replied: "It is not I who shall rule over you, nor my son; The Lord must be your ruler."

After Gideon's death, the people of Israel again began to worship the local idols. They no longer remembered the Lord who had so often rescued them.

The people were also ungrateful to Gideon's family despite all the good deeds that family had done for Israel.

Dear Lord, please don't let me  
ever become an ungrateful person

## Chapter 9

Gideon had seventy sons by his wives and concubines. One of his sons was Abimelech, son of a concubine.

Abimelech became king after murdering all but one of his 70 half-brothers.

The half-brother who escaped was Jotham.

Abimelech ruled over Israel for 3 years.

Then God sent a spirit of discord between Abimelech and the leaders of Shechem.

The leaders of Shechem rebelled against Abimelech. Abimelech started attacking and destroying their towns.

Abimelech besieged the town of Thebez.

The people of the town took refuge in a tower.

When Abimelech tried to set fire to the tower, a woman in the tower threw down a large rock which crushed Abimelech's head.