

**Article Study Guide Questions**  
**J. Paul Turner “The Gideon Narrative as the Focal Point of Judges”**

**A - Introduction**

- 1) What does this article seek to do? What is the term to describe the rhetorical study of structure in Hebrew narrative?
- 2) What two other genres does the author mention and what can they contribute to the understanding of the text? How do they compare to textual patterning?
- 3) What are some examples of common textual patterns?
- 4) What are episodes and how can they be identified? Why are they so important?
- 5) The author mentions a five step method that can be used for identifying textual patterning, while I don't believe that you will have to know this on the quiz, acquaint yourself with it so you can better understand the remainder of the article.

**B - The Structure of the Gideon Narrative**

- 6) What is the overall structure of the book? What are the seven major narrative blocks (write out his pattern, including the parallelism) and why is the Gideon Narrative significant?
- 7) What type of pattern is there within the Gideon narrative? What is the ultimate result of this organization?
- 8) What is the structure of the narrative and what are the significant patterns can be found? How are these patterns similar to the overall pattern?

**C - Implications of the Structural Pattern of Judges**

- 9) What is the author's first of his two observations in regards to the Gideon text?
- 10) How does the Gideon narrative serve as the turning point in Judges?
- 11) What are some characteristics of the Othniel, Ehud, and Deborah-Barak narratives?
- 12) How does the Gideon narrative change things, what shifts and how is this marked?
- 13) What is the significance of the Abimelech narrative? The Jephthah narrative? The Samson narrative?
- 14) What is the “primary matter in the Gideon narrative”? What's the main example of this in the narrative? How do God and Gideon interact?

15) How is Gideon's fear resolved?

16) How does structure relate to theology, what does the Gideon narrative teach us about how God works with our fear and lack of faith?