

Sermon Discussion Curriculum - Week 1 Judges 1-2 - June 6, 2021

Helpful Resources for Studying Judges

Judges for You by Tim Keller – http://bit.ly/JudgesForYou
The BibleProject Overview of Judges – http://bit.ly/OverviewJudges
The Book of Judges by J.D. Greear (RightNow Media) – http://bit.ly/JudgesByGreear
Visit www.fellowshipar.com/rightnow to create a FREE account with RightNow Media.

Allow God to speak to you through his written Word. The goal of this time is to have quality connection and time together. Choose questions from Know, Grow and Show that will best help your group discuss the passage and take their next steps of faith. Don't feel like you have to use all of the questions. Feel free to add your own too! We are praying for you as you lead your D-Group this week!



- Insufficient means "not enough or inadequate." What is something that can cause a particularly hard day for you if you receive an "insufficient" amount of it? Insufficient sleep? Food? Time with people?
- Can you think of a time growing up when you were certain you could do something without the help of your parents, and it turned out badly?
- Talk about a great leader in your life (examples: teacher, coach, pastor, etc.). What made them a great leader? Why do you look up to them?
- Have you ever heard the saying, "a job half done is as good as none."? Share a time when you or someone you know just did the job half-way. What was the outcome? Were you pleased?
- Are there circumstances in your life where you have found it hard to follow God's commands instead of your own understanding? Share the circumstance. Why was it difficult?



- Take a moment to watch an overview of the book of Judges from The Bible Project:
 http://bit.ly/OverviewJudges. The book of Judges shows a downward cycle of the people of Israel relying on leaders, turning to false gods, and rejecting God as their Lord. Is this a situation you think people can relate to today?
- Read Judges 2:1-10 as a group. What do these verses say about the consequences that Israel will endure because of their unfaithfulness? Summarize this passage in your own words.
- In 2:1-3, God is saying, "I have sworn to bless you as my beloved people and sworn not to bless you as a disobedient people." Tim Keller says, "This is a tremendous, seemingly irresolvable tension in the narrative—and also in the whole Bible." Zoom out from this specific book, in the whole context of Scripture, how does God resolve this tension?
- Read Judges 2:11-23 as a group. What is the cycle we see taking hold that will be repeated over and over in the Book of Judges by the Israelites? What does verse 17 say about failure to pursue the one true God and the result of following lesser gods?
- It's recorded in Genesis 12 that the land of Israel was promised to the people by the Lord. They were living in this land during the time of Judges, but their rebellion caused them to lose this promise for a time. Despite their continued falling away, God never abandons the people. What do you see revealed about the character of God in Judges 1-2?
- Are there any specific verses in chapter 2 that seem to stand out to you and lay a foundation for the rest of the book?

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- The book of Judges is summed up in its final verse. Compare Judges 21:25 and Romans 1:24-25. What is the answer to the problems in these two passages?
- Tim Keller says, "We live and work among a great variety of gods—not only those of other formal religions, but also the gods of wealth, celebrity, pleasure, ideology, and achievement." What role does our D-Group play in helping each of us rely on the only sufficient Savior?
- Is there sin in your life you explain away or rationalize? How does the gospel empower us to lay aside the sin that so easily entangles us and the idols we pursue in our lives?
- Are there areas of your life where you have forgotten God's faithfulness to you or taken it for granted? Spend some time in prayer thanking God for his forgiveness and goodness to you.
- Think of all the areas in your life where you are enjoying "success." Are you still radically relying on God and obeying him in those areas? Are you willing to do whatever God says about this area of your life? How does the cross motivate you to make these changes?
- How have you seen the "Judges Cycle" in your own Christian life? How does the reality of your sin and of God's grace prompt you to praise and thank him today?