

Small Group Questions

July 12, 2020

Series: Right in the Eye

Message: "Let's Make a Deal"

This extended series will work through the book of Judges. That period of time represents some of the more bizarre and hard-to-understand parts of the Bible. There will be a large "river" to cross to apply what happened so long ago, in a culture very different than our own, to the day in which we live. That will be our goal, namely, to show how God remains faithful in all times and with all people. The time of the Judges points out the flaws in broken humanity and the trustworthiness of the God of the Bible. The hope is that this study will help to empty our false pride and instill a greater level of trust in God and our day-by-day dependence upon Him.

The title of the series comes from the last sentence of the book that serves as a general summary of what has been detailed in Judges. "Everyone did what was right in their own eyes" (Judges 21:25b). It is easy to see our own day described in that sentence. May God convince us of our need to surrender to Him and His direction for us in all aspects of our lives and faith.

Thank you once again for your service to God by loving the people in your group! I trust that you are meeting in person or again or will soon do so, perhaps outdoors in these warm days. May God bless you for your service.

(Questions to get everyone to participate)

1. If you are in a "heap of trouble," who will you call? Why them?
2. When you were a teen, who was the "big man" or "big woman" on campus? What earned them that reputation?

(Questions based on the primary texts)

Read Judges 10:6 – 11:11 and 11:29-40.

3. This is the 6th time in the book of Judges that the cycle repeats itself: forsaking God. Why is Israel repeating the same mistakes? Do people today do a similar thing when it comes to God or is this different? Why?
4. What do you make of Jephthah's upbringing – was he a Robin Hood or just a hood? Why?
5. Why would someone make a vow to God that goes against something God has said?
6. How do Jephthah's actions reflect the theme of the book of Judges? (see Judges 21:25)
7. Jephthah's story can be summed up in four words: rejection, vindication, victory and heartache. Which of the four words reflect your life right now? Explain.
8. Should people today make vows of any kind? Is there a difference between a vow and being committed? Why or why not?