



MBSF

Book of Judges

2023

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Israel Fights the Remaining Canaanites - Judges 1:1-2:5

Open It

1. What are your top three priorities in life?
2. What is one adult responsibility or chore that you dislike?

Explore It

1. What were the Israelites concerned about? (1:1)
2. How was it obvious that the Lord was with the men of Judah? (1:19)
3. Why did the Lord withdraw His help from the Israelites? (1:27-2:5)
4. What condition did the Lord put on His covenant with the nation of Israel? (2:1-2)
5. In what way did Israel suffer because of breaking their covenant with the Lord? (2:3)

Get It

1. What are some of your God-given responsibilities, jobs, roles, or tasks?
2. What obstacles do you need to overcome in fulfilling your God-given responsibilities?

Apply It

What can you do to fulfill the responsibilities God has given you?

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Disobedience and Defeat - Judges 2:6-3:6

Open It

1. Why do you think bad things sometimes happen to good people?
2. In what ways are you different from your parents? Your grandparents?

Explore It

1. When were the Israelites faithful to their covenant with the Lord? (2:7)
2. What happened to Israel because of their unfaithfulness to the Lord? (2:14)
3. How did the Lord show His mercy toward Israel even when they were unfaithful? (2:16)
4. How did the Lord react to Israel's disobedience? (2:20-21)
5. Why did the Lord want this generation of Israelites to learn warfare? (3:2)

Get It

1. What does this story tell us about why God allows bad things to happen to believers?
2. How has the Lord shown compassion to you recently?

Apply It

How could you say thank You to God for the compassion He has shown you?

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Ehud - Judges 3:7-31

Open It

1. When have you ever had to be resourceful or especially creative to solve a problem?
2. What do you think are your two best talents or abilities?

Explore It

1. Why was the Lord angry with Israel? (3:7)
2. Why did Eglon gain power over Israel? (3:12)
3. What strategy did Ehud use to defeat the Moabites? (3:15-28)
4. To whom did Ehud give credit for Israel's victory over Moab? (3:28)
5. How did Israel subdue the rest of the Moabites after their king (Eglon) was killed? (3:28-30)

Get It

1. What does this story teach you about the kind of people God uses to achieve His purposes?
2. For what difficulty or challenge in your own life do you need God's help?

Apply It

What specific steps could you take in the next few days to use one of your gifts or abilities for God's glory?

[illegible]

Deborah - Judges 4:1-5:31

Open It

1. What are some of the themes you've noticed in songs today?
2. If you wrote a song about your life, what would be the title?

Explore It

1. What message from the Lord did Deborah give to Barak? (4:6-7)
2. For what reason did Barak not receive the glory for his victory over Israel's enemy? (4:9)
3. What encouragement did Deborah give Barak in the battle against Jabin's army? (4:14)
4. What is the unifying theme of Deborah's song? (5:1-31)
5. What did Deborah mean by, "The stars fought . . . against Sisera"? (5:20)

Get It

1. What does this passage reveal about God's providence?
2. With what situation in your life do you need to trust the Lord more?

Apply It

What specific steps could you take in the next several days to entrust a problem or enemy to the Lord?

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Gideon - Judges 6:1-40

Open It

1. What would you say are some of the costs of being a Christian in today's world?
2. What risks have you had to take because of your faith in God?

Explore It

1. In what familiar situation did the Israelites find themselves? (6:1-2)
2. What message did the prophet bring to Israel from the Lord? (6:8-10)
3. How did Gideon respond to the challenge of the Lord? (6:15)
4. How did the Israelites react to what Gideon had done? (6:28-30)
5. How did the Lord show His patience and love to Gideon? (6:38, 40)

Get It

1. In what ways has the Lord reassured you that you were doing what was right?
2. What step do you need to take while feeling hesitant to move forward?

Apply It

What is the first step you need to take in an area in which you fear moving ahead?

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Gideon Defeats the Midianites - Judges 7:1-25

Open It

1. What is one of your most memorable dreams, and what was memorable about it?
2. When have you ever been part of an amazing or unlikely victory?

Explore It

1. Why did God say that Gideon had too many fighting men? (7:2)
2. What did the Lord tell Gideon to do? (7:2-3)
3. What did the Lord do to encourage Gideon? (7:9-15)
4. What strategy did Israel use against the Midianites? (7:16-21)
5. What miracle did the Lord do on behalf of Israel? (7:22)

Get It

1. How should a Christian's perspective of life's challenges be different from a nonbeliever's?
2. What difficult situation are you facing right now?

Apply It

What specifically can you do to depend on the Lord for help?

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Gideon's Ephod - Judges 8:1-35

Open It

1. Why do people sometimes say to others who experience success, "Don't let it go to your head"?
2. When have you seen success or popularity change a person in a negative way?

Explore It

1. Why were the Ephraimites upset with Gideon? (8:1)
2. Why were the men of Succoth afraid to help the Israelites? (8:6)
3. How did the Israelites respond to Gideon's success in battle? (8:22)
4. How did Gideon respond to his newfound popularity? (8:23-24)
5. In the end what unfortunate outcome resulted from Gideon's success? (8:27)

Get It

1. What role did pride play in Gideon's life?
2. How can we guard ourselves against pride?

Apply It

What concrete action could you take each day to keep yourself from pride?

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Abimelech - Judges 9:1-10:5

Open It

1. What does it feel like to be deceived by a friend?
2. How do your friends and coworkers view people who are dishonest?

Explore It

1. Who was Abimelech, and what did he want? (9:1-2)
2. What is the meaning of Jotham's story? (9:8-20)
3. Why did the Lord send an evil spirit between Abimelech and the people of Shechem? (9:23-24)
4. What was the final outcome of Abimelech's battle with Shechem? (9:42-45)
5. What was God's purpose in all of this war and death? (9:56-57)

Get It

1. What attitude should we have toward power and wealth?
2. How can we guard against the temptation to seek wealth and power?

Apply It

What risks do you think you need to take this week to stand up for what is right?

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Jephthah - Judges 10:6-12:15

Open It

1. Under what circumstances do people often make poor decisions?
2. What is one consequence you have suffered for a poor decision or choice?

Explore It

1. How were the Philistines and Ammonites able to defeat Israel? (10:6-8)
2. What strategy did Jephthah use to save Israel from the Ammonites? (11:12-29)
3. What vow did Jephthah make to the Lord? Why? (11:30-31)
4. What happened as a result of Jephthah's vow to the Lord? (11:30-39)
5. How did the Gileadites conquer the Ephraimites? (12:4-6)

Get It

1. How can we cultivate and increase our faith in God?
2. What does this tell us about God's nature?

Apply It

What specific step do you think you could take to increase your faith in God?

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The Birth of Samson - Judges 13:1-25

Open It

1. What three words would you use to describe your family?
2. What would you say are the greatest rewards of being a parent?

Explore It

1. What instructions and promise did the angel of the Lord give to Manoah's wife? (13:2-5)
2. How did Manoah react to the news his wife received from the Lord? (13:8)
3. What amazed Manoah and his wife? (13:19-20)
4. Why did Manoah think he and his wife would die? (13:22)
5. How was the angel of the Lord's promise fulfilled? (13:24-25)

Get It

1. From what disappointing experience or situation has the Lord delivered you?
2. How have you experienced the compassion and forgiveness of the Lord?

Apply It

What new perspective could you have on a difficult situation in your life?

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Samson's Marriage - Judges 14:1-20

Open It

1. What are some techniques people use to persuade others?
2. How have you ever been persuaded to do something you didn't want to do?

Explore It

1. What resulted from Samson's visit to Timnah? (14:1-2)
2. How did the Lord plan to use Samson's sinful desires to fulfill God's purposes? (14:4)
3. What happened to Samson on the way to Timnah? (14:5-6)
4. How was Samson able to tear apart a lion with his bare hands? (14:6)
5. What reasoning did Samson's wife use on him to discover the answer to the riddle? (14:16)

Get It

1. Which character traits of Samson would you like to have, and which would you rather avoid?
2. What weakness has the Lord used in your life to achieve His purposes?

Apply It

What specific step or steps could you take to guard against temptation?

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Samson and Delilah - Judges 15:1-16:31

Open It

1. What one character trait or special talent do you wish you had?
2. How have you seen God use one of your weaknesses or failures to accomplish something good?

Explore It

1. What happened when Samson went to visit his wife? (15:1-2)
2. What had the Philistines done that made Samson attack them so viciously? (15:6-7)
3. What weakness of Samson did the Philistines use against him? (16:1-5)
4. What was the source of Samson's strength, and why did he lose it? (16:17-20)
5. How was Samson victorious even in his own death? (16:28-30)

Get It

1. What can you learn from this story about dealing with your own weaknesses and failures?
2. What are some of your strengths that you think God could use?

Apply It

How could you use an ability or talent for God's glory?

[illegible]

Idolatry in the Tribe of Dan - Judges 17:1-18:31

Open It

1. What bad habits do people commonly excuse or shrug off?
2. What do you like or dislike about where your family has settled?

Explore It

1. What motivated Micah to return the money he stole? (17:1-2)
2. In what way were both Micah and his mother disobedient to God? (17:3-5)
3. How did Micah attempt to rationalize his shrine and gain God's favor? (17:12-13)
4. How did the five spies convince the priest to go with them? (18:19)
5. What do Micah's words reveal about his faith? (18:24)

Get It

1. How can we guard against the sin of hypocrisy?
2. In what area of your life do you need to be more consistent with your faith?

Apply It

Whom could you ask to help you be more consistent with your faith?

Notes

[illegible]

Israelites Fight the Benjamites - Judges 19:1-21:25

Open It

1. What specific actions do you associate with hospitality?
2. When was a time you felt unwelcome in someone else's home?

Explore It

1. Why did the old man from Ephraim advise the Levite not to spend the night in the town square? (19:20-22)
2. How did the Levite save himself from assault? (19:25)
3. Why did the Israelites assemble at Mizpah? (20:1-3)
4. What happened in the battle between the Benjamites and the Israelites? (20:14-48)
5. With whom did the Lord side in this situation? Why? (20:23)

Get It

1. What lesson can be learned from the way the Israelites approached their battle with the Benjamites?
2. How can you depend on the Lord for strength and direction in your life?

Apply It

In what situation that you're now facing do you need God's wisdom and guidance?

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Men's Bible Study Fellowship Calendar

2023

Book of Judges

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lesson</u>	<u>Homework</u>
Feb. 16	Leadership Meeting	
23	Sign up / Intro	Judges 1:-2:5
Mar. 02	Judges 1:-2:5	Judges 2:6-3:6
09	Judges 2:6-3:6	Judges 3:7-31
16	Judges 3:7-31	Judges 4:1-5:31
23	Judges 4:1-5:31	Judges 6:1-40
30	Judges 6:1-40	Judges 7:1-25
Apr. 06	Judges 7:1-25	Judges 8:1-35
13	Judges 8:1-35	Judges 9:1-10:5
20	Judges 9:1-10:5	Judges 10:6-12:15
27	Judges 10:6-12:15	Judges 13:1-25
May 04	Judges 13:1-25	Judges 14:1-20
11	Judges 14:1-20	Judges 15:1-16:31
18	Judges 15:1-16:31	Judges 17:1-18:31
25	Judges 17:1-18:31	Judges 19:1-21:25
Jun. 01	Judges 19:1-21:25	
08	Possible Steak & Study	

