

Over and Over Again

Judges 1-3

1. Please share your name with the ladies at your table. Describe a vacation you could enjoy over and over again.
2. Read Numbers 33:50-55. Before the Israelites enter the land God promised them, God gives some specific instructions through Moses to the Israelites. Discuss these instructions.

Reread verse 55. What are the consequences for Israel if they do not drive out the inhabitants in the land?

3. Read Exodus 23:31-33. What important reason does God give for driving out the inhabitants in the land? See verse 33.
4. Read Joshua 1:1-2. Who is Joshua? What task does God give him?
5. To see if the Israelites fully obey God, read Judges 1:21, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33. What recurring phrase is associated with each of the tribes of Israel?

What do you think could be some reasons the people of Israel stop short of fully obeying God?

Share some reasons we do not always completely obey God.

What helps motivate you to be obedient to God?

6. Read Judges 2:8-13 along with Judges 3:5-6. Describe what happens after Joshua dies.

Read Psalm 106:34-39 which summarizes Israel's situation during the time period of the Judges. Think of ways we embrace our culture today which negatively influences our walk with the Lord.

What are some ways we can influence our culture for good?

7. God's justice is demonstrated as He judges the Israelites sin in Judges 2:14-15. What other attributes of God do you see in verses 16-17?
8. Read Judges 1:12,13 along with Judges 3:8-11 to learn about the first judge Othniel. What stands out to you in Othniel's brief story?

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Why Study Judges?

- **It is relevant.** As the Israelites slide away from God, we recognize we too are prone to wander.
- **It is revelatory.** The era of judges reveals God's character - His faithfulness, power, and grace!

Look for yourself in these stories. Experience God's grace and blessing for _____.

Backstory of Judges

1:1-2:7

- **The era of judges bridges the time of Joshua's death to the time of kings, about 350 years.**
- **Under Joshua, the Israelites obey God, drive out the enemies, and settle the land.**
- **All the tribes fail to fully obey God when they stop short of driving out all the enemies. These enemies will influence the Israelites away from God, bringing them trouble and pain.**

Obey God and let Him _____ your words, actions, and lifestyle, and receive blessing.

Time of Judges

2:8-3:6

- **Joshua dies, along with the generation who had seen God's mighty works.**
- **The next generations do evil in the sight of the LORD, which results in oppression.**
- **When the Israelites call out to God, He graciously raises up leaders to save them.**
- **This cycle of sin, servitude, supplication, salvation, and silence is repeated over and over.**

Teach your children about God. Listen to godly leaders. Obey God's Word.

Do not _____ with your culture.

First Judges

3:7-31

- **Othniel – The Holy Spirit is on him. He judges Israel. He is victorious in battle.**
- **Ehud – He is the left-handed deliverer from God. He does God's will.**
- **Shamgar - He uses a simple farm tool to deliver Israel from the Philistines.**
- **God calls and graciously empowers these 3 men using their handicaps as assets.**

Let your weaknesses become strengths in the powerful, faithful, _____ hand of God.

Amazing Grace – Judges 1-3

May 26-27, 2021

NUMBERS 33:55 “But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those of them whom you let remain shall be as barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides, and they shall trouble you in the land where you dwell.”

EXODUS 23:32-33 “You shall make no covenant with them and their gods. They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you.”

JOSHUA 23:11-13 “Be very careful, therefore, to love the LORD your God. For if you turn back and cling to the remnant of these nations remaining among you and make marriages with them, so that you associate with them and they with you, know for certain that the LORD your God will no longer drive out these nations before you, but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a whip on your sides and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from off this good ground that the LORD your God has given you.”

DEUTERONOMY 6:7 “You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.”

PSALM 78:4 We will not hide them from their children, but tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

ROMANS 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

2 CORINTHIANS 12:9a, 10b But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” . . . For when I am weak, then I am strong.

