



## The Book of Judges

### Half Hearted Discipleship

Lesson 1

The book of Judges begins by looking backwards, and ends by looking forward.

- God gives Joshua the dimensions of the land he will give you (read Joshua 1:3-4).
- God also reminds Joshua to be obedient to the military advances he gives them. It's a spiritual walk with him (read Joshua 1:7-8).

Question: What is the significance of the spiritual land God has promised you and why is obedience in your spiritual walk essential?

God's call to his people (then and now) is to combine spirituality with bravery. True discipleship is radical and risk-taking, because true disciples rely on God to keep his promises to bless them, and not their own instincts, plans, or insurance policies.

#### Part 1

Read Judges, Chapter 1

Question: Israel failed to push out the Canaanites from the land, which served as consequences to them. What happens to us spiritually when we fail to rid ourselves completely of sin in which the enemy enslaves us?

Question: What in your life are you not trusting God with?

#### Part 2 Disobedience and Defeat

Read Judges, Chapter 2

Pay attention, Judges 2:1-2

- Gilgal is referenced in Joshua 5:9 where God made a covenant with His people. God had forgiven their sin and bound himself as their people. God extends grace. The Lord is a rescuer, a promise keeper, and is faithful.

Question: Israel disobeyed God, says the angel. How has Israel failed in their covenant to God?

Halfway discipleship is an unstable compound. It cannot last. God wants Lordship over every area of our lives.

Like Israel, we say “I can’t”, but God replies, “You won’t”.

Here are 3 general categories of “can’t”:

1. Forgiveness: I can’t forgive this, or him, or her. But God commands forgiveness (Matt. 18:35).
2. Difficult truth-telling: I just can’t tell the truth. God says speak the truth in love (Eph. 4:15, 25).
3. Temptation: I can’t resist doing this, though I know it is wrong (1 Cor. 10:13).

Question: Where are you saying to God “I cannot”? Do you need to accept that, in fact, you are saying “I will not”? How will you change?

Question: How will the cross motivate you to make these changes?

Next week: Read Judges 3