



## The Book of Judges

### Lesson 6

Gideon and Abimelech: Ruling as Kings

Not every necessary job is a highly visible leadership role. But such work is vital to getting a big task done.

Read Judges 8:1-3

Question: We see great humility in Gideon's leadership. Which is stronger in your life, humility or pride wanting recognition?

Read Judges 8:4-9

The leaders of Succoth and Peniel refused to help Gideon and his 300 warriors chasing an army of 15,000. Succoth and Peniel were worried or fearful that Gideon might fail, knowing that God promised Gideon the victory.

Question: How willing are you to join others to do God's work? Is it talent, time, money or prayer that hinders you?

Read Judges 8:10-17

Sukthoth and Peniel showed neither faith or respect for God nor the man God had chosen to save them.

Question: How does this challenge you to show faith or respect for the man or woman of God who is in leadership that you may not agree with?

Read Judges 8:18-34

Gideon never lost focus of his positioning by God in his life, and it wasn't to be Israel's king. Gideon continued to put God first in his life.

Question: Have you given every dimension of your life to Christ? How's your focus?

The mistake: In verse 31 Gideon has yet another son, Abimelech, a man who desired power. You can read about this man's life in Judges 9. Gideon was noted as a hero on the battlefield, but didn't always represent that in his everyday life.

Question: Sometimes in life our greatest temptations will come after our greatest victories. Have you experienced that in your own life?

Next Week: Read Judges 10:6 – 12:15  
Jephthah: The Outcast

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