

Triangle Bible Study

Lesson 1: Book of Judges Overview

According to Walvoord and Zuck, “The Hebrew word for ‘judge’ or ‘deliverer’ has a wider connotation than the English word ‘judge.’ It was a general term for leadership combining the executive (including military) and judicial aspects of governing. Thus, the judges of Israel were primarily military and civil leaders, with the strictly judicial functions included as appropriate.” •

Warmup

- What did you learn from the lecture on the Book of Judges Overview?

Day 1: Read Joshua 24:11-18 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. Of what did Joshua remind Israel concerning God’s plan for them? (Joshua 24:11-15)

2. How did Israel respond to Joshua’s reminder? (Joshua 24:16-18)

Day 2: Read Joshua 24:19-31 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

3. Summarize what Joshua said to Israel in vs. 19-20, 23, 26-27.

4. What do you learn of Joshua’s leadership in Joshua 24:28-31?

Day 3: Read Judges 2:10-16 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

5. How did the Israelite generation, after Joshua, provoke God's anger? (vs. 10-15)

6. What was God's temporary solution? (v. 16)

Day 4: Skim Judges 3:7-11, 12-30, 31, Judges 4-5, Judges 6-8, Judges 10:1-2, 3-5, Judges 10:6-12:7, 12:8-10, 12:11-12, 12:13-15, Judges 13-16 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. Name the 12 Judges by skimming through the verses listed above.

Day 5: Read Judges 17:6, 18:1, 19:1, 21:25, Exodus 15:26, Deuteronomy 6:18, 12:25, 21:9 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

8. Which phrases are repeated in the Judges passages listed above?

9. What is the consistent theme stated in the Exodus and Deuteronomy verses above?

Day 6: Reflection

10. What do you hope to learn from your study of the book of Judges? Write a short prayer asking God to educate you through this study.

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Lesson 2: Judges 1

Warmup

- How did the lecture on Judges 1 impact you?

Day 1: Read Judges 1:1-4, Genesis 49:8-12, Micah 5:2 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. What did the Israelites ask of the Lord, and what was His response? How will you apply this to your life?
2. Using Genesis 49:8-12 and Micah 5:2, why was Judah a good choice to confront the Canaanites? What did Judah do prior to fighting the Canaanites? (Judges 1:3)
3. Referencing v. 4, how do you see God's faithfulness to Judah? How has God been faithful to you?

Day 2: Read Judges 1:5-18 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. What Canaanite leader was defeated by Judah and what happened to him? To what/whom did he attribute his defeat?
5. Make a list of victories Judah experienced in Canaan that are mentioned in today's text.

6. How is the request of Caleb's daughter a good example for us when praying to our Heavenly Father? (vs. 11-15)

Day 3: Read Judges 1:19-36, 2 Samuel 5:6-10 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. List the tribes of Israel that only partially obeyed God's command about possessing the land He had given them.
8. According to 2 Samuel 5:6-10, who did God use to drive out the Jebusites from Jerusalem, whom the Benjamites failed to dislodge? (v. 21)
9. What lesson or principle is found in today's scripture? Describe a time in your life when you only partially obeyed God?

Day 4: Read Numbers 33:55-56, Joshua 23:12-13, Psalm 106:34-48 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. What were to be the consequences of Israel's disobedience, according to Numbers 33:55-56 and Joshua 23:12-13?
11. What do you learn about God from Psalm 106:34-48?
12. How might you apply something learned from any of today's Bible passages?

Day 5: Read John 15:19, 16:33, II Corinthians 6:17-18 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

13. What do you learn about this world from the following cross references?

- John 15:19
- John 16:33
- II Corinthians 6:17-18

14. What will you apply to your own life from the three verses above?

Day 6: Read again Judges 1:1-36 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

15. What is your most challenging take-away from chapter 1 of Judges?

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Lesson 3: Judges 2

Warmup

- What helped you from listening to the lecture on Judges 2?

Day 1: Read Judges 2:1-5 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. God sent a message to Israel via “the angel of the Lord.” Write down any blessings, commands, and warnings to Israel from God.
 - Blessings
 - Commands
 - Warnings
2. How did the Israelites respond to God’s message?
3. What lesson or principle do you take from today’s Bible passage?

Day 2: Read Judges 2:6-10 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. This portion of the Book of Judges looks back to Joshua’s generation. Generally, how were the Israelites described during Joshua’s generation? (vs. 6-7)
5. How was the generation after Joshua depicted in v. 10?

6. What might cause an entire generation of people to forget about God? List ways your generation can prevent forgetting God?

Day 3: Read Judges 2:11-19 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. Record phrases found in vs. 11-19 that indicate how far Israel had moved away from God.
8. What do you learn about God, despite Israel's rebellion against Him?
9. What lessons can be derived from Israel's spiritual condition recorded in today's text?

Day 4: Read Judges 2:20-23, Matthew 23:15-33, John 3:36, Romans 1:18 [\[Open NIV\]](#)
[\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. Why was God so angry with Israel?
11. How did Israel suffer under God's wrath?
12. Describe what the following verses teach about escaping the wrath of God.
 - Matthew 23:15-33
 - John 3:36
 - Romans 1:18

Day 5: John 3:17-18, Romans 8:1, 1 Thessalonians 1:10 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

13. What do you learn about escaping the wrath of God from the following Bible verses?

- John 3:17-18
- Romans 8:1
- 1 Thessalonians 1:10

14. How can one live without fearing the wrath of God, according to the cross references above?

15. How will you respond to the verses in today's study?

Day 6: Read again Judges 2:1-23 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

16. What single verse stood out to you from Judges 2 and why?

17. How will you apply the verse you chose in question 16?

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Lesson 4: Judges 3

Warmup

- Write down something you learned about Judges 3 from the lecture.

Day 1: Read Judges 3:1-5, Proverbs 17:3, James 1:2-3, 1 Peter 1:6-7 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. From God's perspective, why were the Philistines, Canaanites, Sidonians and Hivites left in the land of Canaan? (vs. 1 and 4)

2. What do you learn about God's testing His people from the cross references below?
 - Proverbs 17:3
 - James 1:2-3
 - 1 Peter 1:6-7

3. How have you ever been tested by God, and what was outcome of such testing?

Day 2: Read Judges 3:6-11 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. What did Israel do that caused the LORD's anger to burn against them? (vs. 6-7) What was the consequence of their sin? (v. 8)

5. Who was the first Judge that God sent to deliver Israel from their enemies? Who came upon this Judge and for what purpose?

6. Deliverance is defined as “a rescue from bondage or danger.” Why did Israel need a deliverer in Old Testament times?

Day 3: Read Judges 3:12-25 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. What did the Israelites do, once again? How did the Lord respond? What were the consequences of Israel’s actions? (vs. 12-14)
8. How did the Israelites respond again to the oppression they experienced in Canaan? How did God respond to Israel? (vs. 15-16)
9. Summarize the interaction between Eglon, King of Moab, and Ehud, Judge of Israel, recorded in vs. 17-25.
10. What interests you the most about the story of Eglon and Ehud? Give your reason why.

Day 4: Read Judges 3:26-30 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

11. What did Ehud of Israel do after killing Eglon of Moab?

12. Why do you think Israel still had to possess the land of Moab, despite Ehud's declaration "for the Lord has given Moab, your enemy, into your hands"? What hard action did Israel have to take so that they might possess Moab?

13. What lesson or principle did you receive from today's text?

Day 5: Read Judges 3:31, Judges 5:6 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

14. Write down everything you learned about Judge Shamgar from Judges 3:31 and 5:6.

15. What impression do you have of Shamgar from the limited information you receive in the two verses from Judges?

Day 6: Read Romans 6:11-14, John 8:31-36, Romans 8:2 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

16. What do you learn about sin from Romans 6:11-14?

17. What do you learn about freedom in the two cross references below?

- John 8:31-36
- Romans 8:2

18. How will you apply something from the three verses in today's lesson?

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Lesson 5: Judges 4-5

Warmup

- How did the lecture about Judges 4-5 help you?

Day 1: Read Judges 4:1-3 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. What do you learn about the Israelites after Judge Ehud died? How did God respond?
2. What is written about the enemy of Israel in Canaan?
3. How is God described in v. 2? What is learned about mankind in today's passage?

Day 2: Read Judges 4:4-7 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. List everything you learn about Deborah in vs. 4 and 5.
5. What stands out to you about Deborah, using only today's scripture?
6. Summarize Deborah's plan to defeat Jabin's mighty army. How will you apply something from vs. 4-7?

Day 3: Read Judges 4:8-24 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. What do you learn about godly leadership from Barak's and Deborah's conversation in vs. 8-10? State an application from these verses.

8. How did Deborah empower Barak for his battle against Sisera?

9. What was the outcome of this "battle" and the reason for such an outcome? (vs. 14-16)

Day 4: Read Judges 5:1-9 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. Why did Deborah and Barak sing?

11. What do you learn about praising God from vs. 1-9? How will you apply this to your life?

12. Make a list of what was revealed about Deborah's heart from the lyrics of her song of praise to the Lord.

Day 5: Read Judges 5:10-18 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

13. In vs. 15-18, Deborah rebukes 4 tribes. Name the tribes and the reason for their rebuke.

14. Describe a time when you were rebuked for something you did or did not do. Why is it so hard to receive rebukes, even when they are deserved or needed?

Day 6: Read Judges 5:19-31 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

15. What is the main point of Deborah's praise to God in today's passage?
16. How did vs. 24-27 fulfill the prophecy that Deborah gave to Barack in Judges 4:9?
17. How does v. 31 encourage you today?

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Lesson 6: Judges 6

Warmup

- What did you find helpful from the lecture on Judges 6?

Day 1: Read Judges 6:1-6 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. In v. 1, what are you told about:
 - The Israelites?
 - The Lord?
 - The Midianites?
2. Describe how oppressive the Midianites and other eastern peoples were to the Israelites.
3. What did this oppression from Midian cause the Israelites to do once again? Be prepared to share with your discussion group about a time when you cried out to the Lord for help.

Day 2: Read Judges 6:7-10 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. How did God respond to Israel's cry for help?
5. Summarize what the prophet sent by God said to the Israelites.

6. Why do you think God needed to remind the Israelites of His past faithfulness to them? Write down times when God has demonstrated His faithfulness to you.

Day 3: Read Judges 6:11-18 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. Who did the angel of the Lord address in today's passage, and how did the angel address him?
8. How did Gideon respond to the angel of the Lord? (vs. 13-18)
9. How will you apply something learned from this conversation between Gideon and the angel of the Lord?

Day 4: Read Judges 6:19-24 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. How did Gideon show hospitality to the angel of the Lord, and how did the angel respond?
11. How was Gideon encouraged and empowered by the Lord?
12. Describe a time when you've been encouraged and empowered by the Lord.

Day 5: Read Judges 6:25-32 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

Note: Baal was the pagan god of agriculture, and Asherah was the pagan goddess of the sea, worshipped by building wooden pillars.

13. What did the Lord command from Gideon, and how did he respond?

14. What caused Gideon to be fearful of following God's command? Describe a time in your life when you were fearful to follow a command of God.

15. How did Joash, Gideon's father, demonstrate courage before the men of their town?

Day 6: Read Judges 6:33-40 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

16. What caused Gideon to react so boldly to the Midianites, Amalekites and all who joined forces against him in the Valley of Jezreel?

17. Describe a time in your life when you knew that the Spirit of the Lord was with you to face a difficult circumstance.

18. Do you believe Gideon was exhibiting a lack of faith by laying out two fleeces before God or was he simply trying to gain divine encouragement for the task he was facing? (vs. 36-40)

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Lesson 7: Judges 7-8

Warmup

- What is something helpful you learned from the Judges 7-8 lecture?

Day 1: Read Judges 7:1-8, Jeremiah 9:23-24, Psalm 20:7 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. According to v. 2, why did God tell Gideon that his army was too big? How was Gideon's army shrunk in size prior to facing the Midianites?

2. Why was it important for Israel not to boast in their own strength? Why is it important that you not boast in your own strength?

3. What do you learn about boasting from the verses below?
 - Jeremiah 9:23-24
 - Psalm 20:7

Day 2: Read Judges 7:9-15, Psalm 94:18-19, Matthew 6:31-34, Romans 8:28 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. What did the Lord instruct Gideon to do and how did Gideon's obedience to God's command bring encouragement to him?

5. How are you encouraged by today's passage and the following cross references?
 - Psalm 94:18-19
 - Matthew 6:31-34
 - Romans 8:28

6. Describe a recent time in your life when God encouraged you.

Day 3: Read Judges 7:16-25 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. What did Gideon say to his troops prior to their attack on the Midianites? (Hint: Look for quotation marks recording Gideon's actual words to the 300 soldiers)
8. How did Gideon show good leadership qualities before his army of men? What is something demonstrated by Gideon that you can use in your life?
9. Write down Gideon's key to victory over Midian.

Day 4: Read Judges 8:1-3 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. The Israelite tribe of Ephraim was critical of Gideon because he left the majority for "clean-up" duty in their battle against Midian. How did Gideon respond to their criticism, and how did it affect their attitude toward him?
11. When have you received unjustified criticism after accomplishing a successful task or assignment? Why is it so difficult to receive criticism from another?
12. What do you learn from the way Gideon answered his own people, the Ephraimites?

Day 5: Read Judges 8:4-21 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

13. How did Gideon respond to the men of Succoth and Peniel when they refused to offer Gideon's 300 soldiers anything to eat?
14. Once Gideon and his army tracked them down, what was the fate of the two Midianite kings, Zebah and Zalmunna? Why did Gideon treat them so harshly?
15. What is something from today's reading that you can apply to your life?

Day 6: Read Judges 8:22-35 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

16. How did Gideon answer the Israelites upon hearing they wanted him to rule over them? What do you learn about Gideon's character from his response?
17. What did Gideon do with the items he received as tokens of appreciation from the Israelites? How did this action ultimately become a snare to Gideon and his family?
18. What was Gideon's legacy? What happened to Israel after Gideon's death?

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Lesson 8: Judges 9

Warmup

- What was most meaningful to you from listening to the lecture on Judges 9?

Day 1: Read Judges 9:1-6 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. Using Judges 6:32, what was the other name for Jerub-Baal? How many sons did he have? Which of his sons desired to take his father's leadership position in Israel?
2. What did Abimelech do to better position himself to seize the leadership of Israel? Which of Abimelech's half-brothers escaped the mass murder?
3. What lesson is being illustrated in the first 6 verses of Judges 9? How will you apply that lesson to your life?

Day 2: Read Judges 9:7-21 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#) (Note: In Jotham's parable the trees represent Gideon's 70 sons and the thorn bush represents Abimelech. His point is that a productive person would be too focused on doing good to try to gain power for selfish reasons.)

4. After telling his parable, how did Jotham challenge the citizens of Shechem in vs. 16-20?
5. Explain how Jotham was so courageous in vs. 7-20 and so fearful in v. 21.

6. Describe a time when you needed courage to stand up or speak out against something or someone that was wrong.

Day 3: Read Judges 9:22-29, Jeremiah 12:1, Habakkuk 1:2-4 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. How did God avenge the murders committed by Abimelech? Who else was complicit in the murders of Gideon's sons?
8. Who arrived in Shechem after Abimelech began leading Israel? What did he say about Abimelech's leadership?
9. What do the following Bible verses teach about waiting on God's timing for His justice over evil? Why is it difficult to wait for God to make what is wrong, right?
 - Jeremiah 12:1
 - Habakkuk 1:2-4

Day 4: Read Judges 9:30-41 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. What message did the Governor of Shechem send to Abimelech? (vs. 30-33)
11. Describe what happened as recorded in vs. 34-41.

Day 5: Read Judges 9:42-49 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

12. What did Abimelech do upon determining the citizens of Shechem were working in their fields? Where did the survivors of Shechem seek refuge?

13. How did Abimelech respond when he heard where many Shechemites had taken refuge? What was the result?

Day 6: Read Judges 9:50-57, Romans 5:9 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

14. Where did Abimelech go next and what did he find there?

15. What happened to Abimelech which led to his demise?

16. What does v. 56 tell you about God's justice?

17. How was justice served on the cross by Jesus Christ? (Romans 5:9)

Warmup

- What was most helpful from listening to the lecture on Judges 10-11?

Day 1: Read Judges 10:1-9 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

1. Name the two judges who came after Abimelech. How long did each lead Israel?
2. Describe Israel's downward spiral rebellion, once again, away from God. (vs. 6-9)
3. What do you learn about God in today's passage? How do these verses help your faith walk with Christ today?

Day 2: Read Judges 10:11-18, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Romans 2:4, 2 Corinthians 7:9-10
[\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

4. What did the Israelites do in v. 10, and how did God respond in vs. 11-14?
5. Summarize what you learned about repentance from vs. 15-18?

6. What do the following cross references teach about repentance?

- 2 Chronicles 7:14
- Romans 2:4
- 2 Corinthians 7:9-10

Day 3: Read Judges 11:1-11 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

7. Write down everything you learn about Jephthah in vs. 1-3.

8. Explain what the elders of Gilead agreed to with Jephthah in vs. 4-11.

9. Despite the rejection of Jephthah's brothers, God had a special purpose for his life. What do you learn about God's choosing of people for special assignments from today's passage? Describe a time in your life when God chose you for an assignment.

Day 4: Read Judges 11:12-27 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

10. Summarize the conversation (through messengers) that Jephthah conducted with the Ammonite king.

11. Give an argument Jephthah gave against the Ammonite king's claim that Israel had stolen the land.

12. What discernment did Jephthah exhibit in his dealing with the Ammonite king?

Day 5: Read Judges 11:28-33 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

13. How did the Ammonite king respond to Jephthah? (v. 28)
14. What did Jephthah vow before God in vs. 30-31? Give reasons why this was irrational and unwise.
15. What happened to Jephthah next and how did God show him favor in his dispute with the Ammonites?

Day 6: Read Judges 11:34-40 [\[Open NIV\]](#) [\[Open NKJV\]](#)

16. What must have brought Jephthah unspeakable heartache upon his return to his home?
17. How can you apply Jephthah's vow to your life?

