

I'm in the Lord's Army



Lesson 9

Taking the Land as Their Own

Theme: Obedience — Carrying out God's commands completely

Memory Verse

"In those days there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes."
Judges 17:6

Daily Bible Readings

Thursday Judges 1:1-8, 16-21
Friday Judges 1:22-36; 2:1-5
Saturday Judges 2:6-23
Monday Judges 3:1-11
Tuesday Judges 3:12-30

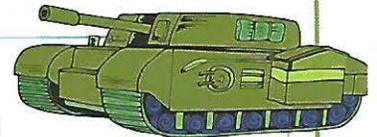
The people of Israel had a problem. God told them to kill all the people of Canaan and tear down their idols. God wanted the Canaanites destroyed because He knew they worshiped idols, and they would be a bad influence on the Israelites.

The people of Israel decided it was okay to leave some of the Canaanites alone and not make them leave the Promised Land. God had warned that these Canaanites would be a bad influence on the Israelites, but the people didn't listen. When the people forgot all the great things the Lord had done for them, they turned to other gods and began worshiping idols.

Judges 1:1-8, 16-21

True or False? The Israelites drove all of their enemies out of the land of Canaan.

Write the verse numbers that prove your answer.





Judges 1:22-36; 2:1-5

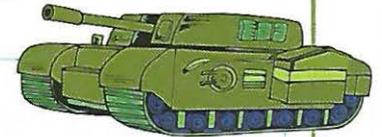
True or False? God wanted the children of Israel to marry the Canaanites.

Why or why not?

Obeying and Disobeying

The book of Judges tells about a cycle in the lives of God's people. A cycle is something that happens over and over in the same way. The people would have good times for a while, and then they would start following the idols of the Canaanites. Because of this disobedience, God allowed enemies to attack Israel.

After the Israelites were defeated by their enemies, they would cry out to God for help. God would have mercy on His people and save them from their enemies. He raised up a judge to lead the army and defeat the enemy. The people obeyed God for a while, but before long they would start following idols again. When they did this, the cycle would begin again.



Judges in Israel

God's people worshiped the Canaanites' gods. To punish and teach His people, God allowed their enemies to attack. The Israelites became slaves to their enemies, and they begged the Lord for help. God had mercy on Israel and raised up

Judges 2:6-23

The children of Israel did not keep serving God as He wanted them to. Instead, they did evil in the sight of the Lord and worshiped _____.

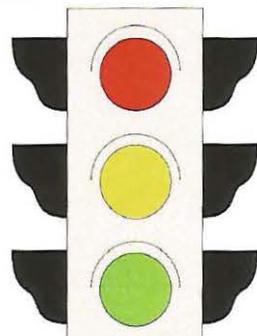
Who influenced the Israelites to worship the idols?

Othniel to lead the army to victory over its enemies. Othniel was Israel's first judge. The Israelites were thankful for God's help and served Him for many years. After Othniel led Israel for many years, he died; and then the people forgot God again.

Israel's second judge was Ehud, who defeated Moab's fat king named Eglon. Most people are right-handed and use a sword with this hand. A right-handed person carries his sword on his left side so he can pull it out easily. Ehud,

however, was left-handed and hid his sword on his right thigh. When Ehud was alone with King Eglon, he drew the sword and

I want to obey every one of God's laws.

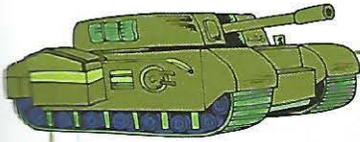


Put an X in the light that best describes you.

Red — rarely

Yellow — sometimes

Green — always



Judges 3:1-11

True or False? The children of Israel lived in the same land with the Canaanites but did not allow their children to marry Canaanites.

Name Israel's first judge. _____

stabbed Eglon. In this way, the Lord used Ehud to save Israel from Moab.

Over many years, God raised up several judges to lead His people. The judges led Israel to obey God, but when a judge died the people would forget God.

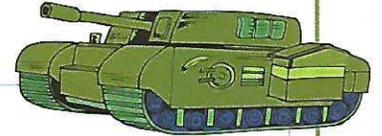
What Can We Learn?

The events during the time of the judges help us learn at least three important lessons. First, if our friends

are evil, they may cause us to be evil. We must choose our friends carefully. The New Testament teaches that "bad company corrupts good morals" (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Second, we must remember to do all God commands. God took care of His people and defeated their enemies. But when the Israelites did not follow God's will completely, they brought trouble to themselves.

Third, we must make up our minds to serve God in good times and bad times. We must never forget about the great things God has done for us. This will help us serve God even when it is hard.



Judges 3:12-30

Fat King _____ of Moab defeated the sons of Israel in battle.

The second judge of Israel was _____, who killed the fat Moabite king with God's help.

Think About It . . .



Your teacher has decided to divide her students into groups of four to work and play together for the whole year. You have been placed with three of the poorest behaved kids in class. You must spend ALL of your school time for the whole year with them. Name at least three ways your behavior might change over the course of the year as a result of spending so much time with them.



Operation Bible Facts

Which books of the Old Testament are about the United and Divided Kingdoms, King Solomon and Israel losing the Promised Land?

Practice turning to books of the Bible without using the Table of Contents or Index Tabs. Try these:

Ephesians 1:1

Philemon 1:1

Nehemiah 1:1

On a map inside the back cover, use your pencil to lightly trace the route of the Exodus, including Mount Sinai, the Wilderness wanderings, Moab, and Mount Nebo.