



SERMON NOTES



Week 1 (June 6, 2021):
“Introduction – The
Endless Cycle”

Judges 1:27, 29-33, 2:1-3, 6-10

I. Introduction

- A. The word _____ means ruler or leader.
- B. The problem for God was not getting the people out of Egypt, it was getting _____ out of the people.
- C. The people that were in the promised land worshiped a variety of different _____.

II. Disobedience, spiritual complacency, and the endless cycle

- A. The Israelites did not _____ God’s command to drive out the inhabitants in the land.
- B. The Israelites became spiritually _____.
- C. When there is an absence or a void in spiritual leadership we can experience the same _____ as we see in the book of Judges.

III. Avoiding the endless cycle of Judges

- A. In order to prevent spiritual complacency in our lives, we must make sure we are staying _____ to God.
- B. When we don’t have spiritual _____ in our homes, our church’s and our communities it will lead to consequences.
- C. _____ leaders have several characteristics.
 - i. They allow themselves to be used by God.
 - ii. They inspire faith and greatness in others.
 - iii. They remind people that God has already won the victory.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message

ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

God spent forty years preparing the Israelites to go into the Promised Land. The problem for God was not getting the people out of Egypt, it was getting Egypt out of the people. When the time was right, God commanded his people to drive out the inhabitants in the land. Unfortunately, they did not obey this command and it eventually led to idolatry. Also, after the first generation of Israelites in the promised land died, the people became spiritually complacent. The disobedience and spiritual complacency led to an endless cycle of problems. Today we see the same cycle in our lives, churches and nation. So, what can we do to avoid this cycle.

Monday: Judges 1

The people of Israel did not obey God's command to drive out all the inhabitants of the promised land. This would eventually lead to the Israelites worshiping other gods. Was there ever a time in your life that you were disobedient to God's command and it led to problems? What did you learn from that experience?

Tuesday: Judges 2:6-10

Once the first generation of Israelites in the promised land died, the next generation did not know the Lord or what the Lord had done for them. It is important to pass on our faith to the next generation. How do you invest spiritually in the next generation?

Wednesday: Judges 2:11-19

These verses talk about the repeated cycle of great spiritual leaders, a faithful community, prosperity, spiritual complacency, idolatry, difficulties and people crying out to God for help. Then God sends another spiritual leader. Who are the spiritual leaders that made a difference in your spiritual journey?

Thursday: Proverbs 12

In many ways, Proverbs 12:26 serves as the main idea for the entire chapter. The people with whom we surround ourselves have such an impact on the people we become. What does this chapter have to say about the kind of people with whom we should connect ourselves?

Friday: Ezekiel 22:29-30

God was looking for someone to be a heroic spiritual leader and apparently found no one. As we will see over the next few weeks, in the Book of Judges God calls heroic spiritual leaders. Where do you feel God is calling you to lead spiritually – the home, the church, the community etc.?

MOVING FORWARD

In order to avoid spiritual complacency, we need to stay connected with God. Through our spiritual disciplines God needs to be first in our lives. And in order to stop the consequences of spiritual complacency in our homes, churches and community we need spiritual leaders. This week determine where God is calling you to lead spiritually – the home, the church or the community. Then step up and lead. Spiritual revival starts with you and me.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) Judge, B) Egypt, C) gods. IIA) obey, B) complacent, C) cycle. IIIA) connected, B) leadership, C) Spiritual.