

The Book of Judges

Bible Study: 21st April 2021

[Reflections Podcast: When We Walk Out on God Podcast | BibleProject™](#)

Video Question

What image stood out to you in the video and why?

[The Book of Judges \(Video\)](#)

Message Question

How did Carissa's message challenge or encourage you today?

[What Happens when I turn my back on God? - \(Long Version with Reading\)](#)

[What Happens when I turn my back on God? - \(Shorter Version\)](#)



Read: [Judges 2:10-19](#)

The book of Judges shows us what can happen when we try to do life apart from God's wisdom and refuse to give up our stubborn attitudes and actions. The destruction that follows hurts everyone, but the book of Judges also offers a glimpse of hope. If you worry that you've failed too often or wandered too far away from God, remember that it's not too late to call out to him. God is gracious and forgiving. He runs toward those who return to him.

Ref #	Question/Discussion	Notes
1	Review verse 10. How does the text highlight why the people "forsook," or walked away, from God? What can you learn from this explanation?	
2	Review verse 13. The Canaanite idol Baal was thought to be the god over the weather and nature. In an agricultural society, people served Baal in hopes that he would reward them with a wealth of crops and flocks, assets that would lead to riches. Now read 1 Timothy 6:9-11 . How can a longing to be rich cause someone to walk away	

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	from the one true God? What are other things people pursue ahead of God?	
3	How do you feel when others disregard what you say or reject you? What if you really love the person? How do your feelings relate to your love for that person?	
4	When God's people disregard and reject him, he feels angry. How might God's anger relate to his love for his people? How often do you consider God's feelings when you make choices?	
5	Compare Judges 2:15 with what God said in Deuteronomy 4:25-31 . What did God assure would happen if Israel turned to other gods (<i>Deut. 4:25-28</i>)? How does God assure his mercy and provide another chance for his people (<i>Deut. 4:29-31</i>)?	
6	The book of Judges ends with this line, "There was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes." How can this help us understand what it means to honour Jesus as the King of our lives? What is one area of your life that would change if you fully agreed with Jesus' perspective?	
7	Take this moment to pray and return to God any areas of your life that you've held back. Remember God's overwhelming mercies and that he runs toward those who return to him see. Luke 15:20-24	

Judges 2:10-19

10 After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors, another generation grew up who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel.

11 Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals.

12 They forsook the LORD, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the LORD's anger.

13 because they forsook him and served **Baal** and the **Ashtoreths**. (**Ashtoreth**)

14 In his anger against Israel the LORD gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist.

15 Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.

16 Then the LORD raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders.

17 Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the LORD's commands.

18 Whenever the LORD raised up a judge for them, he was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the LORD relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them.

19 But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.

1 Timothy 6:9-11

9 Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Final Charge to Timothy

11 But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness.

Deuteronomy 4:25-31

25 After you have had children and grandchildren and have lived in the land a long time—if you then become corrupt and make any kind of idol, doing evil in the eyes of the LORD your God and arousing his anger, 26 I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you this day that you will quickly perish from the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess. You will not live there long but will certainly be destroyed. 27 The LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and only a few of you will survive among the nations to which the LORD will drive you. 28 There you will worship man-made gods of wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or eat or smell.

29 But if from there you seek the LORD your God, you will find him if you seek him with all your heart and with all your soul. 30 When you are in distress and all these things have happened to you, then in later days you will return to the LORD your God and obey him. 31 For the LORD your God is a merciful God; he will not abandon or destroy you or forget the covenant with your ancestors, which he confirmed to them by oath.

Luke 15:20-24

20 So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. 21 “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. 23 Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. 24 For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.