

SMALL GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

1. How is our culture like the days of the judges in Israel's history?
2. How have you seen the "Judges cycle" in your own Christian life?
3. How is the cycle of sin different for a believer versus an unbeliever?
4. Why is it important to be willing to do whatever God says in each area of our lives?
5. How is Jesus the ultimate deliverer?
6. How is the Word of God like a double-edged sword?

Answers to fill in the blanks:
 WHAT IS THE BOOK OF JUDGES ABOUT?
 (1) JOSHUA, SAMUEL (2) JESUS (3) IDOLS (4) DOWNWARD
 HOW DO WE BREAK THE CYCLE OF SIN IN OUR LIVES?
 1. THE POWER SOURCE (1) POWERLESS (2) ADDICTION, TURN OVER
 2. THE CATALYST (1) UNTIL IT GETS (2) LORD SAVE ME, DELIVER
 3. THE MEANS (1) JUDGMENT, SALVATION, DO WHAT IT SAYS
 4. THE VICTORY, PRIDE

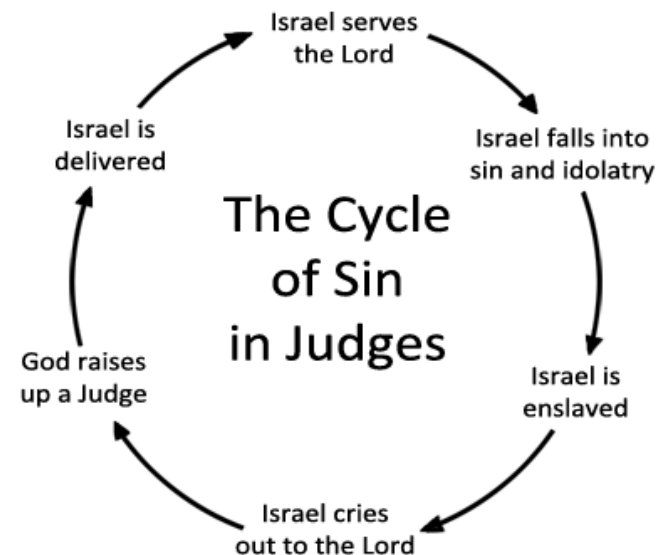
Grace Bible Church
 3505 Stower St.
 Miles City, MT 59301
 406-232-5787
www.gbcmilescity.com

SERMON NOTES

BREAKING BAD: FREEDOM FROM THE CYCLE OF SIN JUDGES 3:12-30

WHAT IS THE BOOK OF JUDGES ABOUT?

- 1) The setting is the time between _____ and _____, a dark time of Israel's history.
- 2) During this time God raised up judges who were more like deliverers who pointed toward the ultimate Deliverer - _____!
- 3) Because Israel disobeyed the LORD and did not drive the people from the land, they forgot the LORD and worshiped _____.
- 4) Israel was in a _____ spiraling cycle of sin.



SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

HOW DO WE BREAK THE CYCLE OF SIN IN OUR LIVES?

1. THE _____ 3:12-14

Judges 3:12–14 (CSB)

¹² The Israelites again did what was evil in the LORD’s sight. He gave King Eglon of Moab power over Israel, because they had done what was evil in the LORD’s sight. ¹³ After Eglon convinced the Ammonites and the Amalekites to join forces with him, he attacked and defeated Israel and took possession of the City of Palms. ¹⁴ The Israelites served King Eglon of Moab eighteen years.

- 1) We are _____ to break the cycle of sin on our own.
- 2) The cycle of sin is similar to the cycle of _____.

**Identify an area of your life yet to _____
to the LORD.**

2. THE _____ 3:15

Judges 3:15 (CSB)

¹⁵ Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD, and he raised up Ehud son of Gera, a left-handed Benjaminite, as a deliverer for them. The Israelites sent him with the tribute for King Eglon of Moab.

- 1) We often don’t cry out to the LORD because we don’t really want to change bad enough, _____ bad enough.
- 2) We need to cry out like Peter did when he was sinking in the water, _____! (Matthew 14:29-31)

**Pray that the LORD would _____ you from sin in this
area.**

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

3. THE _____ 3:16-25

Judges 3:16, 20 (CSB)

¹⁶ Ehud made himself a double-edged sword eighteen inches long. He strapped it to his right thigh under his clothes...

²⁰ Then Ehud approached him while he was sitting alone in his upstairs room where it was cool. Ehud said, “I have a message from God for you,” and the king stood up from his throne...

- 1) To some the Word of God is _____, to others _____.

Hebrews 4:11–13 (CSB)

¹¹ Let us then make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall into the same pattern of disobedience. ¹² For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any double-edged sword, penetrating as far as the separation of soul and spirit, joints and marrow. It is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ No creature is hidden from him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give an account.

Discover what God’s Word says about this area of your life and

_____!

4. THE _____ 3:26-30

Judges 3:28 (CSB)

²⁸ He told them, “Follow me, because the LORD has handed over your enemies, the Moabites, to you.” So they followed him, captured the fords of the Jordan leading to Moab, and did not allow anyone to cross over.

Give God the glory to avoid what was behind the sin in the first place -

_____.