

NIV MEMORY VERSE: Galatians 6:7

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked.
A man reaps what he sows.

EXODUS & POSSESSION 26-1**"ABIMELECH AND JEPHTHAH"
JUDGES 9:1-12:15**

1. What impressed you most from last week's lesson?

DAY 1 READ Judges 9:1-21

2. Abimelech, whose name means "my father is a king," was the son of Gideon's concubine who lived in Shechem.
 - a. To whom did Abimelech go and for what purpose?
 - b. What reception did he receive?
3.
 - a. How was his quest for power financed?
 - b. How did Abimelech use the money?
4.
 - a. In what way did Abimelech "eliminate competition?"
 - b. Who escaped the executions?
5.
 - a. Jotham was a fugitive, yet he stood on Mount Gerizim and spoke a parable to the people to challenge them to reconsider their choice of a king. From the parable list the response of each of the following:
olive tree –
fig tree –
vine –
thornbush/bramble –
 - b. What curse did the thornbush call down?
 - c. (IN-DEPTH) In your opinion what was the point Jotham was trying to make in the parable?
6.
 - a. What final admonition did Jotham make in verses 16-21 before fleeing to Beer?
 - b. Why do you think an appeal to conscience can be effective?

DAY 2 READ Judges 9:22-57

7. God was patient to avenge the blood of Gideon's 70 slain sons. How did it begin to come about in Judges 9:23-25?
8. What was Gaal's boastful attitude toward Abimelech and Zebul as he drank with his friends?
9. a. What plan did Zebul suggest to Abimelech to prepare for a battle with Gaal?
b. When Gaal recognized Abimelech's army, what challenge did Zebul make in verse 38?
10. a. For Shechem's part in the rebellion, what did Abimelech do to the city after he captured it?
b. How did Abimelech destroy those who took refuge in the tower at Shechem?
11. a. How was Abimelech wounded in the attack on Thebez?
b. How did he die?
12. What comes to your mind as you read verses 56,57?

DAY 3 READ Judges 10:1-17

13. a. How many years did Tola lead Israel?
b. How many sons did the next judge, Jair, have?
c. Why do you think Scripture mentions these minor judges?
14. a. For the sin of idolatry, into whose hands did God sell His people?
b. When they cried out to God, how did He respond?
15. a. What evidence do you see in verse 16 of God's compassion?
b. Write 2 Chronicles 7:14.
c. True repentance is met by heavenly compassion. Write these verses:
Psalm 103:13

Hebrews 4:15

DAY 4 READ Judges 11:1-40

16. How was Jephthah described in 11:1-3?
17. a. Why did the elders of Gilead go to get Jephthah from Tob?
 - b. What was Jephthah's response to the elders?
 - c. How do you think "times of trouble" opens lines of communication? What have you learned from that experience?
18. The Ammonite king wanted land returned. What major points did Jephthah make in reply?
 - a. vs. 23,24
 - b. vs. 26
18. a. What was the vow Jephthah made to God if He gave the Ammonites into his hands?
 - b. Who came out to meet Jephthah when he returned to his home?
 - c. What was her request?
 - d. What custom grew up as a result of Jephthah's act?
19. Do you recall an incident that brought you pain because of something you said?
 - a. How did it affect you and others?
 - b. How might you have avoided the situation?
 - c. We must realize that what we both say and do affects other people. Jephthah learned the hard way. What have you learned from his experience or your own?

DAY 5 READ Judges 12:1-15

20. Jephthah and the Gileadites fought the men of Ephraim. Why?
21. a. What question was asked of a survivor who wanted to cross over the Jordan?
 - b. What word were the survivors asked to say?
22. Jephthah led Israel for ____ years.
23. Identify the judges that ruled after Jephthah and how long each ruled.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
24. What application do you see for yourself from this lesson?

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LECTURE NOTES:

PRAYER REQUESTS: