

Failed Discipleship
Judges 1-2:5
1-15-23

I. Judges is a Case Study on Failed Discipleship to the Next Generation.

II. How Do We Fail in Our Discipleship to the Next Generation?

Judges 1:1-3 - *"After the death of Joshua, the people of Israel inquired of the LORD, 'Who shall go up first for us against the Canaanites, to fight against them?' The LORD said, 'Judah shall go up; behold, I have given the land into his hand.' And Judah said to Simeon his brother, 'Come up with me into the territory allotted to me, that we may fight against the Canaanites. And I likewise will go with you into the territory allotted to you.' So Simeon went with him."*

1. We fail when we develop a small view of God.

~ Let the next generation see our big view of God.

2. We fail when we don't believe the promises of God.

Judges 1:19 - *"And the LORD was with Judah, and he took possession of the hill country, but he could not drive out the inhabitants of the plain because they had chariots of iron."*

~ Let the next generation see our belief in God's promises.

3. We fail when we forget God's works.

Judges 2:1 - *"Now the angel of the LORD went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, 'I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, 'I will never break my covenant with you.'"*

~ Let the next generation hear the testimony of God's work.

4. We fail when our sin does not drive us to true repentance.

Judges 2:4-5 - *"As soon as the angel of the Lord spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. And they called the name of that place Bochim. And they sacrificed there to the Lord."*

~ Let the next generation experience revival out of our repentance.

GROWING DEEPER THIS WEEK

1. What did you think about the message this week? What stood out to you or challenged your thinking?
2. Israel suffered from a small view of God. How do we struggle in the same way? How do we increase our view of God? How do we help the next generation increase their view of God?
3. Is having a small view of God a form of idolatry? Why or why not?
4. How does having a "big view of God" impact the way that you live?
5. When we forget the promises of God, we take matters into our own hands. What is an example of this in your life? How can we, as Christians, avoid this?
6. Why is it so easy for us to have "spiritual amnesia" and forget what God has done in our lives?
7. What are some ways you can celebrate what God has done in your life with the next generation? How could this be beneficial to our church?
8. Israel wept over their sin, but they didn't fully repent and turn from it and that decision impacted the next generation. How can we do this today? What hinders us from pursuing true repentance?
9. What implications does true repentance of sin have for us in discipling the next generation?