

Life Group Discussion Material – Sunday, January 23rd Message

The Cycle Begins (Judges 2:11-18)

Judges – The Cycle of Sin

1. The main point from today's message was, *God still actively deals with sin*. Did this change your view about how God deals with sin, especially when it comes to believers? If so, how did it change?
2. The Israelites did not just start worshipping false gods right away. What process got them to worshipping false gods? *Read Judges 2:11-13*
3. Read Acts 5:1-11 together. What is the significance of this account in regard to it taking place in the New Testament, after Christ's death and resurrection?
4. According to Acts 5:11, what was at least one intended purpose of God in handling sin in this manner? Does the intended purpose work for you?
5. Read the following paraphrase by John Piper and discuss it:

“God’s punishing anger is completely absorbed by Christ at the cross when He died and bore our sin. God may still be angry and displeased toward believers today when we sin, but it is in a disciplinary sense rather than a condemning one.”

6. Read Judges 2:18. What moved God to pity His people? Was He obligated to help them? Would you view God any differently if He had just let natural consequences play out rather than stepping in and helping them?
7. The last point of application from today was, *Even in His anger, God is compassionate*. Read Ephesians 2:1-7 and discuss this statement in light of what the Scripture says.

Further application: Continue to be humble and allow God to reveal any areas of compromise in your life