

Life Group Discussion Material – Sunday, February 20th Message

The Deborah & Barak Cycle (Judges 4 & 5)

Judges – The Cycle of Sin

1. The proposition for this week's message follows:

God will do what needs to be done in order to fulfill His will

As we study through Judges, how do you see this truth playing out already in regard to God's covenant with the nation of Israel, His promise for them to become a great nation, and His dealing with them in the book so far? How does the cycle of sin relate to this as well?

2. Read Judges 4:4-9. Why does Barak hesitate when being reminded of his call to arms by Deborah? What does he want to happen before he will obey?

3. The application for the above verses was: *obedience to God is never dependent upon someone or something else*. Listed below are a few areas where it can be tempting to depend upon something else happening before we will obey God. For example, someone may say, "I will forgive them when they forgive me or ask for forgiveness." Talk through these areas and examine yourself if you struggle obeying in any of these areas:

Forgiveness

Love

Respect

Service

Evangelism

Repentance

Obedience (in general)

4. Read Numbers 20:8-13. Moses was punished by not being allowed to go into the promised land. What was he punished for?

5. *Compromised obedience results in lost rewards*. How does this application relate to what you read above? How are we to uphold God, especially when it comes to obedience? *See Numbers 20:12*

6. If we truly view and know God as holy, should it be hard to obey Him?