

LIFEGROUPS

JUDGES

Apostasy is defined as: *Abandonment of one's religious faith, a political party, one's principles, or a cause.*

1. Do you think Christians in today's society are guilty of apostasy? Why or why not?
2. What are some reasons people give up on following Christ?

The Book of Judges gives examples of Israel's continued disobedience and apostasy, then the resulting judgement, then their cries for help, then God's deliverance.

Read Judges 1:19-2:5

3. Why did God want the Israelites to drive out all the people in the land? (2:1-3)
4. Why didn't the people follow God's commands?
5. What ways does this challenge the way we live today?

Read Judges 2:6-15

A next generation didn't know about God at all, and simply worshipped the gods around them.

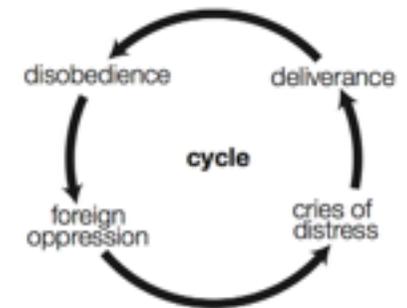
6. What are some reasons you think the next generation didn't know about God and what he'd done?
7. Who's responsibility is it to reach the next generation? How can you do that in your family, in the church, in your community?

LEADER'S NOTES

These notes are here as guidelines or commentary notes to help the leader. Let the Word of God lead you and your LIFEGROUP to HEAR God's prophetic message this week as you explore His Word together. The idea is that reflecting and sharing together about God's Word, will speak into your current situations to challenge, encourage, or inspire you this week.

Judges

The events in the book of Judges focuses on the consequences of apostasy, and the problems with partial commitment to God. As the book continues, we see a cycle of disobedience, foreign oppression, cries of distress, deliverance. And as the book continues, the level of disobedience gets worse and worse.



The Israelites continually broke their covenant with God. Living in the promised land, instead of being a light to the nations, they simply adopted the culture, gods and lifestyle of the surroundings. Yahweh, became just another god for the Israelites to worship.

Judges 2:18,19 describes this cycle.