



## Part 5 The Judges to the Making of a Great Nation

### INTRODUCTION / REVIEW

- ▶ The Bible: God's Divine Drama of Salvation
  - ➔ Prologue (Genesis 1-11)
    - Creation / Fall of Man
    - Flood / Destruction of Man
    - Babel / Dispersion of Man
  - ➔ Act 1: Salvation Provided (Genesis 12 - John 21)
  - ➔ Act 2: Salvation Proclaimed (Acts 1 - Jude)
  - ➔ Act 3: Salvation Realized (Revelation 1-22)
- ▶ Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob & Joseph): God births & builds a new nation on faith
  - Ingredients of a Great Nation
    - A. People
    - B. Order
    - C. Land
- ▶ Sojourn in Egypt: God causes Israel to grow
- ▶ Exodus: God liberates Israel from bondage
- ▶ Sojourn in the Desert: God's New Order + Israel's Rebellion
- ▶ Time of Joshua: Entering, Conquering & Possessing the Promise Land

A generation characterized by radical obedience.

- ① God honors those who honor Him
- ② Godly living involves warfare.
- ③ God has no grandchildren.

### FROM THE JUDGES TO THE MAKING OF A GREAT NATION

- ▶ Period of the Judges: Apostasy, Oppression, Anguish, Judge, Liberation, Peace

④ Spiritual compromise leads to a curse life.

⑤ 95% obedience = total disobedience.

- ▶ Samuel & Israel's Transition to a "Theocratic" Monarchy

- Saul
- David
- Solomon

- ▶ Uniqueness of the Book of Psalms

- Israel's hymnal
- Five books
- Written by various authors
- Messianic prophecy
- Widely quoted in the New Testament
- Characterized by emotional honesty

## LifeGroup Questions - Doing Life Together

Week of February 5-11, 2017

### Route 66 Series

## The Judges to the Making of a Great Nation

Judges 1 – 1 Kings 10 (Solomon)

Sermons can be viewed online at [creeksideeg.com/sermon](http://creeksideeg.com/sermon)

Questions are based on the NIV translation of the Bible

### PRAYER

Begin your time together by thanking God for pouring out His favor on those who trust and follow Him. Ask Him to guide your discussion.

### MY STORY

Share a time when you experienced God's favor in your life. How was your obedience connected with His favor?

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. Thinking back to Sunday's message, what really impacted, challenged, or encouraged you this week?
2. Briefly list and define or describe each of the six stages in the "cycle of Judges." Next **read Judges 3:7-11** and tell where each stage is found in the narrative.
3. Have you ever experienced any of the stages of the "cycle of judges" in your own life or seen them in the life of someone you know? (Please don't use names.)
4. **Read Genesis 12:1-3.** In these verses God told Abraham how He would bless him and his descendants. In the passages below, how was God fulfilling some of these promises?

**1 Kings 10:1-13**

**1 Kings 10:14-29**

5. **Read 1 Kings 9:1-9.** Notice that verses 6-7 are an "If/Then" statement. Does that mean that God's love is conditional or just His blessing? What might be God's reason for making such a statement?

### DIGGING EVEN DEEPER

6. **Read 1 Kings 11:1-13.** What was one of the major influences in Solomon's life that turned him away from God? How could he have avoided this? How does **Genesis 2:24** apply?
7. What are some of the things today that tend to draw people away from a close relationship with God? What can believers do to change this?
8. In your estimation, is it easier to drift away from God or to stay close to Him? How do the following influences apply?

The world – **1 John 2:15-16**

Our own sin nature – **Romans 7:14-20**

Satan – **1 Peter 5:8**

### TAKING IT HOME

1. Right now where would you rate your walk with God? Where would you like it to be?

	Now	Where I would like it to be
a. Very strong	_____	_____
b. Fairly strong	_____	_____
c. Mediocre	_____	_____
d. Drifting	_____	_____
e. Other...	_____	_____

2. What can you do this week to strengthen your walk with God?
3. Are you having any successes regarding goals you have set for yourself in the new year? Are there any you could still set in order to get to where you want to be in your walk with God?

### PRAYING TOGETHER

Pray for the needs of your group and spend time asking God to help you walk with Him daily so you may walk in His favor.