

STUDENT STUDY GUIDE: WEEK EIGHT // JUDGES

KEY UNDERSTANDING OBJECTIVES

1. That the people God chose to raise up as judges who had both strengths and weaknesses.
 2. The book reveals a repeated pattern of sin amongst Israel, called 'The Cycle of Sin'.
 3. The nation experienced moral decline as this Cycle of Sin was repeated causing a downward spiral.
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ACTIVITY 1

[That the people God chose to raise up as judges who had both strengths and weaknesses.]

Observe and Understand

Write about the strengths and weaknesses of one of the judges – in regards to their character and their leadership. Choose either:

- Deborah
- Gideon

Application

Choose a positive attribute of the judge you have studied. How could you apply this attribute to your circumstance?

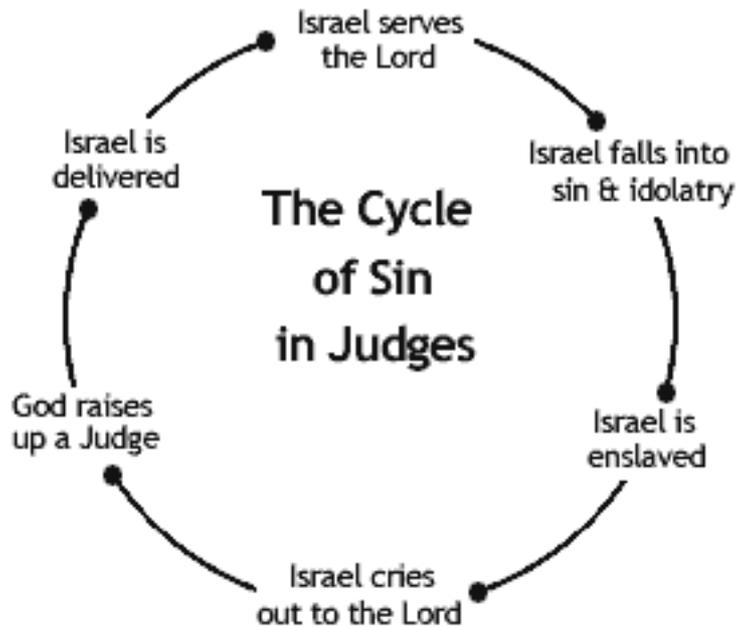
ACTIVITY 2

[The book reveals a repeated pattern of sin amongst Israel, called 'The Cycle of Sin'.]

Observe

Read Judges 3:12-29.

On the image below, record the verses and a short description from the passage that fit with each of the stages of the cycle of sin.



Understand

What understanding have you gained about how God works in the lives of the people in these cycles?

Apply

Think of a time when you turned away from God.

- What made you cry out to Him?
- How did He 'come to your rescue'?
- Could you make a circle like the cycle of sin for your own situation?

ACTIVITY 3

[The nation experienced moral decline as this Cycle of Sin was repeated causing a downward spiral.]

Observe

Read chapter 19 and list the aspects of the story that highlight the moral decline of Israel.

Understand

What do you think contributed to the moral decline of Israel?

Apply

*"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."
(Judges 21:25)*

How do you see this mirrored in our society today?