



JUDGES CHAPTER 21 (FACILITATOR)

Discussion Starter

- What was something that you found easy to lie about when you were a little kid?
- **Opening Prayer**
 - Ask if someone wants to volunteer before leading the prayer.

Tell the Story

- **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE ONE PERSON WHO STORIES (SUMMARIZES THE CHAPTER) BEFORE THE GROUP READS THE CHAPTER TOGETHER.**

Read the Story (Judges 21:1-25)

Read out loud as a group, 3-5 verses per person. Let everyone know they can opt out if they would like. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU INTRODUCE SOME OF THE HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE BOOK OF JUDGES AND THE JUDGES CYCLE WITH YOUR GROUP.**

Breaking it Down

- All questions should be utilized as appropriate based upon group dynamics to facilitate both understanding and discussion. Don't feel tied to the questions and don't feel like you have to get through every question. Follow the Spirit's lead! All questions are a matter of perspective in some way BUT there are specific questions that this is truer of, and these questions have been indicated to be perspective/opinion questions.

Judges 21:1-12

- Notice how the Israelites cry out to God concerning the condition that they are in regarding the Benjamites. Why is this significant?
 - This is significant because it wasn't God who put them in the position that they were in and yet, they seemed to be blaming and questioning God about their circumstances.
 - In what ways are we tempted to blame and/or question God for things that are actually our fault?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

□ How did the Israelites again take things into their own hands seeking their own solutions?

- They made impulsive decisions and slaughtered their own people to provide wives for their own people (specifically the Benjamites) because they felt bad for them.

- Are there any areas of your own life in which you are seeking to take things into your own hands and seeking your own solutions? If so, what are they and how you can more fully give these areas over to God?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

Judges 21:13-25

□ What is both significant and tragic about the way in which the Israelites view and treat women? What does this say about their view of people in general? Their view of God?

- The Israelites view women as disposable and treat them as such. Throughout the course of the book of Judges, we see the increasing devaluing and abuse of women. This view of women indicates that the Israelites view people as commodities to be used and this underscores that the Israelites don't value how God views people and how He loves people.

- In what ways are your views of people not aligned with God's view of people? Be as specific as possible. What are you willing to do about this?

- These are perspective and opinion questions so please listen as the facilitator.

□ What is tragic and sad about the end of the book of Judges?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

- How can you/we as the community of faith avoid finding ourselves in a similar position?

- This is a perspective and opinion question so please listen as the facilitator.

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (John Chapter 1)



JUDGES CHAPTER 21 (STUDENT)

Discussion Starter

- What was something that you found easy to lie about when you were a little kid?
- **Opening Prayer**

Judges 21:1-12

- Notice how the Israelites cry out to God concerning the condition that they are in regarding the Benjamites. Why is this significant?
 - In what ways are we tempted to blame and/or question God for things that are actually our fault?
- How did the Israelites again take things into their own hands seeking their own solutions?
 - Are there any areas of your own life in which you are seeking to take things into your own hands and seeking your own solutions? If so, what are they and how you can more fully give these areas over to God?

Judges 21:13-25

- What is both significant and tragic about the way in which the Israelites view and treat women? What does this say about their view of people in general? Their view of God?
 - In what ways are your views of people not aligned with God's view of people? Be as specific as possible. What are you willing to do about this?

- What is tragic and sad about the end of the book of Judges?
 - How can you/we as the community of faith avoid finding ourselves in a similar position?

Closing & Prayer Requests

- Have a designated person to capture and share (as appropriate) within the life group.
- What happens in life group, stays in life group.
- Don't forget get to confirm the next meeting date and time
- Also recruit someone to do the story for the following week (John Chapter 1)