



**LIFE GROUP STUDY
JUDGES 17-21**

Judges 17-21 reveals the true depth of sinfulness that is running rampant in the nation of Israel. The nations that once walked in the victory that God gave them now disintegrates morally and politically and brings disgrace to God's name. Why? There was "no king in Israel" and the people were falling apart without someone leading them. While these chapters are hard to read, they can show us the depth of our sinfulness and our desperate need for a Savior.

READ JUDGES 17:1-6

Have you ever seen a family more morally and spiritually confused? The son steals from the mother, They managed to break almost all of the Ten Commandments and yet not feel the least bit of guilt about it! In fact, they thought they were serving the Lord by the bizarre things they did!

How would you define idolatry?

Why is worshipping idols a bad deal?

What idols do you find yourself struggling with most?

READ JUDGES 17:7-13

Here we see a Levite that is not living out the calling that God has placed on his life. As a Levite, Jonathan was called to be a spiritual leader for the people of Israel and now we see him leading the worship of a false god. Jonathan has abandoned his calling and by doing so he is causing the people around him to live in sin. Verse 13 shows the power that Jonathan had in the lives of the people around him, "I know the Lord will bless me now," Micah said, "because I have a Levite serving as my priest." Jonathan is not the only one with influence... We have influence today too! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can have an incredible impact in the lives of our friends, family, coworkers and peers when we live out the calling that God has placed on our lives!

What has God called you to do in your life?

Who are people in your life that you would like to make an impact on?
Why?

READ JUDGES 19-20

These are perhaps some of the hardest chapters in the Bible to read. We see the full depth of sin that the nation of Israel was living in. As a result of the wickedness, a woman is killed, a nation goes to war and many more people die. In the midst of these brutal chapters, we are faced with the sinfulness of our own hearts when they are not submitted to the grace of God. When sin goes unchecked, it is destructive. When we allow the culture to shape our hearts, the results are devastating. This is exactly what happened in chapters 19 and 20. This is what our lives could potentially look like if Jesus had not come to redeem us from our sin.

What are some of the potential consequences of sin in our lives?

What happens when we are not willing to admit our sinfulness and surrender it to Jesus?

If you are willing, what are some things that you are struggling with that you would like God to take away from you today?