

Breaking The Cycle Of Sin In Your Life!

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unQualified, Pt. 1

Judges 2:16, *Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders. 17 Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the Lord's commands. 18 Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, He was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. 19 But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.*

The Bible is filled with many encouraging examples of people who faithfully followed God, but it is also filled with many wise warnings from the lives of those who failed!

Romans 15:4, *For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope.*

1 Corinthians 10:11, *These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us... 12 So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! 13 No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.*

1) **The Israelites SINNED**

Judges 2:11, *Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals. 12 They forsook the Lord, the God of their*

ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord's anger.

2) **God DISCIPLINES His People**

Judges 2:14, In His anger against Israel the Lord gave them into the hands of raiders who plundered them. He sold them into the hands of their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. 15 Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the Lord was against them to defeat them, just as He had sworn to them. They were in great distress.

3) **They Cry Out To God And He RESTORES THEM**

Judges 2:16, Then the Lord raised up judges, who saved them out of the hands of these raiders.

4) **They Repeated The CYCLE**

Judges 2:17, Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. They quickly turned from the ways of their ancestors, who had been obedient to the Lord's commands. 18 Whenever the Lord raised up a judge for them, He was with the judge and saved them out of the hands of their enemies as long as the judge lived; for the Lord relented because of their groaning under those who oppressed and afflicted them. 19 But when the judge died, the people returned to ways even more corrupt than those of their ancestors, following other gods and serving and worshiping them. They refused to give up their evil practices and stubborn ways.

Putting This Message Into Practice:

- Identify Your Sin And Your Spot In The Cycle
- If You Are Losing, Ask God To Deliver You!
- Surround Yourself With People Who Will Help You Win!
- Listen To The Leaders In Your Life Who Are Pointing You To The Right Path!

Hebrews 12:6, ...the Lord disciplines the one He loves, and He chastens everyone He accepts...

2 Timothy 2:13, if we are faithless, He remains faithful...

1 John 1:9, If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Romans 8:37, No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Next Steps:

- Throughout the “unQualified” series, our students will be hearing the same message in Student Worship. If you are a parent of a teenager, this will be a great opportunity for a good discussion with your teen following each message.
- Three ways to get more information on NEXT KIDS: Grab a brochure; Text “KIDS” to 77978; or go to cottonwoodcreek.org/nextkids.
- To get the Pastor’s Daily Devotion go to:www.johnmarkcaton.com; Instagram: @PastorJohnMark or Facebook: [/johnmark.caton](https://www.facebook.com/johnmark.caton)