

Family Theme | **God Raises Up Leaders** Date | **January 5, 2025**

Study Text | **Judges 2:1-23**

Read the Word: Judges 2:1-23

Disciple Your Family: Discuss what we can do to help us walk closely with God and serve and obey Him daily.

Discuss the following Key Truths and how to apply them to life. Use the questions to spark discussion.

 **Key Truth: God's People Have a Tendency to Drift Away From God (Judges 2:1-5, 11-17, 19-23)**

APPLY: Walk closely with God, striving to serve and obey Him consistently.

- *How can we maintain a close, consistent walk with God?*

APPLY: Don't let anything pull you away from following God.

- *What might entice us to drift away from God?*

APPLY: Ongoing obedience to God and His Word leads to His help and blessing. Disobedience eventually leads to negative consequences.

- *The Israelites had seen God work in amazing ways. Why do you think they continued to fall into patterns of disobedience?*

APPLY: God loves us and wants the best for us. Set aside sin to put Him first, following and obeying Him.

- *Why is it always best to follow and obey God?*
- *What warning signs can believers see in themselves or in others that would indicate a person's spiritual drifting?*
- *If you notice you are drifting away from God, what are some healthy steps to take to get back into a right relationship with Him?*

 **Key Truth: Good Spiritual Leaders Influence God's People to Follow and Serve the Lord (Judges 2:6-10, 16-18)**

APPLY: Follow the example and influence of good spiritual leaders.

- *What qualities make someone a good spiritual leader?*
- *What are some practical ways we can encourage our pastors and spiritual leaders?*

APPLY: Model and pass along a vibrant faith to following generations.

- *How can we pass along our faith to following generations?*
- *What does it look like to be intentional in our efforts?*

APPLY: Listen to and put into action the teaching and encouragement of good spiritual leaders.

- *Many people view sermons and biblical teachings like TED Talks or inspirational speeches—they enjoy hearing the material but do very little with it. How should our approach to biblical teaching be different?*
- *What biblical truth from today's lesson will you put into practice this week? How will you do so?*

Build a Foundation: Discussion questions for elementary students.

- What was the cycle of disobedience the Israelites were in?
- What are some characteristics of a good leader?
- Who are some good spiritual leaders in your life?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: *Psalm 46:1*



Discuss This Week's Building Block:

In the Old Testament, after the death of Joshua, the judges were the principal leaders of the Israelites. They resolved conflicts and served as military leaders.

Everyday Extras:

Look for wheels on cars and point out how they spin in circles until the car stops. Relate this to the Israelites' cycle of disobedience and how they kept going around and around instead of stopping and learning from their mistakes. Talk about the leaders God appointed to lead the Israelites in the right direction and talk about leaders your child has to help him or her make right choices.

Preschool Highlights:

Today your child learned God chose Gideon to save the Israelites from the Midianites and promised He would be with him. Gideon asked God for a sign and God made the dry wool wet but kept the ground dry. Then God made the ground wet but kept the wool dry. Gideon learned to trust God. **I Can Trust God** just like Gideon did.