

1. Don't be _____ by humble beginnings. (vv. 1-11)

If you'll remember, the judges have been on a _____ scale since the first judge, Othniel.

So Jephthah was the scrappy, _____ child of an undistinguished family, and he wasn't even living in Israel when he comes into the story. Definitely a rough beginning.

This scenario is so unlikely as to be miraculous. And I see God's _____ here.

God had a tough road for Jephthah, no doubt about it. But Jephthah saw it as a _____, not a brick wall.

2. Don't _____ God's Word as you're waiting. (vv. 12-28)

Jephthah has been _____ in Sabbath school!

This shows us that Jephthah, though a valiant warrior, wasn't just a _____ spoiling for a fight.

If we're not using that gift to serve Him to the _____ of our abilities, why should He give us another gift with which to serve Him?

3. Don't try to serve God in your own _____. (vv. 29-40)

God's _____ came upon Jephthah as battle looked imminent.

Things were going well for Jephthah until he got nervous and tried to do things his own _____.

Today, at the word of Jesus in Matt. 5:33-37, we don't make _____. We should let our yes be yes and our no be no, Jesus said.

God doesn't need our help. He needs us to _____ in Him and work according to His Word.

4. Don't let habitual _____ distract you from God's plan. (12:1-7)

Here, as there, Reuben is mad that Jephthah has gone to battle _____ them!

But Jephthah's example, and my personal experience would say that if you're serving the Lord and following His will, you should not _____ to the habitual critics.

Christians leaders need to learn to consider the _____ of criticism.

Calvary Connection Group
Discussion Questions for the week of Mar. 31, 2019

Getting to Know Me

- What is a good book (fiction or non-fiction) that you've read in the last year, other than the Bible? Would you recommend it? Why or why not?
- Would you rather sky dive or deep-sea dive, assuming the physical and financial ability to do both? Why?

Into the Bible

- What one thing stood out to you in this week's sermon as something important to understand and apply?

- Why do you think God sometimes uses leaders who have sinned greatly or apparently disqualified themselves in some ways, like David or Paul? What is Jesus' answer to such people? (John 21:15-17)

- Who else in scripture has had to wait for God's timing to be ripe before coming into their full ministry? What lesson do you think that might teach us?

- What do you think is the difference between serving God in His power, by the Holy Spirit and according to His will, and serving Him in our own strength? Can you think of any biblical examples? Non-biblical examples?

Application

- How have you seen God's omnipotent and omniscient hand on your life as it progressed from phase to phase?
- Have you ever had to deal with habitual criticism? How have you dealt with it?