

JUDGES | HALFWAY FOLLOWERS

JUDGES 1:1-36

God called Abraham and Abraham came out of a family of idolatry in Ur and followed God. He left his idols behind. God made a covenant with Abraham and He would give him land, make him a great nation, and bless all the families of the earth through him (Genesis 12:1-3). That covenant was confirmed with Isaac, and Jacob, who was called Israel. Israel's twelve tribes would be blessed with the land God promised to Abraham. They grew in number, were enslaved, and then delivered from Egypt through Moses. They began to conquer the Promised Land under Joshua's leadership. When Joshua and the leaders who served with him died, the tribes of Israel had a choice to make, would they follow God or go their own way? Judges is a book about the failure of the tribes and the faithfulness of God. What can we learn from Israel's example as we begin the book of Judges?

1. We mustn't be like Israel, who asked for God's _____ and then came up with their _____ when He clearly led them.
2. We must realize God uses _____ people to execute His _____.
3. We mustn't be halfway followers, but instead those who drive out _____ and claim the ground God has _____ for us.