

4. God calls Gideon a mighty man of valor. Everything in the narrative says that at this point he is most definitely not a man of valor. Why does God say this to him (see Judges 6:11-16 and 6:27).

5. Pastor Henry draws this lesson from God's words to Gideon in Judges 6:12: "God sees what you will become because of what God is shaping you to be." How can this truth give you courage to do what God says to do?

6. Chapter 8 outlines clearly how success goes to Gideon's head and becomes a snare. He forgets the lesson of the 300 (see Judges 7:2) and begins to believe his own press releases. How can you keep success from going to your head and becoming a snare?

7. Looking back over this week's sermon and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERIES: The Promised Land (Joshua & Judges)

SERMON 6: "The Upside of Judgment, Fear, and Failure"

TEXT: Judges 6-8

DATE: November 7/8, 2015

1. Find the _____ in the judgment.
Judges 6:1-10

God wants us to _____ the problem before he solves it.

There is a kind of _____ that is merciful, helpful, and full of grace.

There is a kind of _____ that can only come from hate and indifference.

There are some lessons I can't learn without being brought to my knees with failure, frustration, or grief.

Sometimes we have to _____ through the judgement of God before we reach the _____ of God.

2. See God _____ you.
Judges 6:11-16,27

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Judges 6-8

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Gideon will become what he currently is not because of God's presence with him, not because of his _____ valor.

God sees what you will become because of what God is _____ you to be.

3. Beware of your _____ becoming your snare.
Judges 7:2; 8:1-35

The _____ are never against you when you simply do what God says to do.

Gideon quickly forgets the lesson of the _____ (Judges 7:2)

"We need to remember that we are saved by grace when we fail. But we need to remember it much more when we succeed." (Tim Keller)

2. After the people of God fall into sin and experience oppression at the hands of their enemies, God sends a prophet to speak words of judgment. See Judges 6:1-10. How is the mercy of God expressed in these words of judgment?

3. Up to this point in Judges, when the people cry out, the Lord raises a judge. But this time all they see is a prophet. By sending a prophet with words of condemnation they have no idea that God is simultaneously also raising up Gideon. They have to wade through the judgement before they reach the mercy God shows them through Gideon's deliverance. How does God's work behind the scenes and his promises for the future help you to wade through the consequences of your sins?

☀ Our DailyLife devotional will take you on a guided journey through Joshua and Judges over the eight weeks of this series. To receive DailyLife in your inbox, write "please send DailyLife" on your Communication Card. Make sure we have your current email address. If