

SERMON NOTES

JEPHTHAH: THE GOOD, THE BAD, AND THE UGLY

JUDGES 10:17-12:7



BIG IDEA: God uses imperfect people to give us a clearer picture of our need for Christ.

APPLICATION GUIDE

August 15, 2021

DISCUSS

How does Jephthah stand out as a good leader?

In what ways does he fall short?

APPLY

In what ways do you see God calling you to stand for the truth? How can you do that with wisdom and grace, trying to deescalate conflict rather than stir it up?

Have you ever made a foolish promise or uttered careless words? How can the gospel help you view and respond to situations like these?

Though Jephthah was familiar with Israel's history and God's law, he was nevertheless profoundly influenced by the cultural values of his day. How is this true of you? In what ways are you knowing or unknowing pressed into the world's mold?

What needs to change for you to break out and stand firm in godliness (cf. Romans 12:1-2)?

Jephthah responded to the criticism and threats of the Ephraimites with violence. How can you react to similar situations consistently with the wisdom and love of Christ?

COMMIT

There may be more to Jephthah than meets the eye. Take some time this week and explore the similarities between this flawed leader and our perfect Savior. How does Jesus succeed where Jephthah falls short?