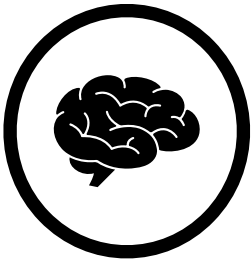


SERMON NOTES

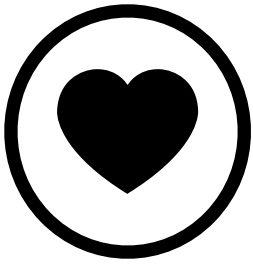
7th May 2023 | God and disobedience | Judges 10



Exploring the text

Questions for reflection:

1. Why do you think the narrator included the stories of Tola and Jair? What stands out from what is said about them?
2. The phrase, 'Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord' is repeated 7 times in Judges. What does this tell us about the Israelites? Why do you think they continued to 'do evil in the eyes of the Lord'?
3. What are Baals and Ashtoreths? Why do you think the Israelites were enticed to 'serve' these God's? Are there modern day equivalents?
4. What punishment did the Lord bring upon the people? Compare this with Joshua 23:15-16.
5. Why do you think the Lord told the people to cry out to the gods they had chosen (vs.14)? What point was he trying to drive home?
6. Do you think there is a difference between Israel's confessions in vs.10 and vs.15?



Connecting our hearts

Questions for reflection:

1. Stu began by reminding us that we are loved by God. Robert Murray M'Cheyne once wrote 'For every look at yourself, take ten looks at Christ'. What do you think of this statement and why is this important?
2. Stu made the point that the Lord may wink at our sin and sin in our lives for a season but he will not let us live in it. Do you agree?
3. Stu suggested that Tola and Jair represented a time of complacency for the people of God which led to their drifting from God. Would you agree? What can we do to prevent this happening in our lives?
4. How would you define the active and passive judgement of God?
5. Why do you think God disciplines us?
6. What is the purpose of God's discipline in our lives (see Hebrews 12:4-10)?



Living it out

Questions for reflection:

1. How can you incorporate regular confession into your daily life to ensure you stay close the Lord?
2. Practice the Prayer of Examen at the end of each day. It has two parts. First consciousness where we are conscious of the good things God has done and give thanks to Him. Second conscience, where we examine our conscience to see where we have strayed and confess our sin asking for forgiveness.

Use the below space to write you own prayer of response