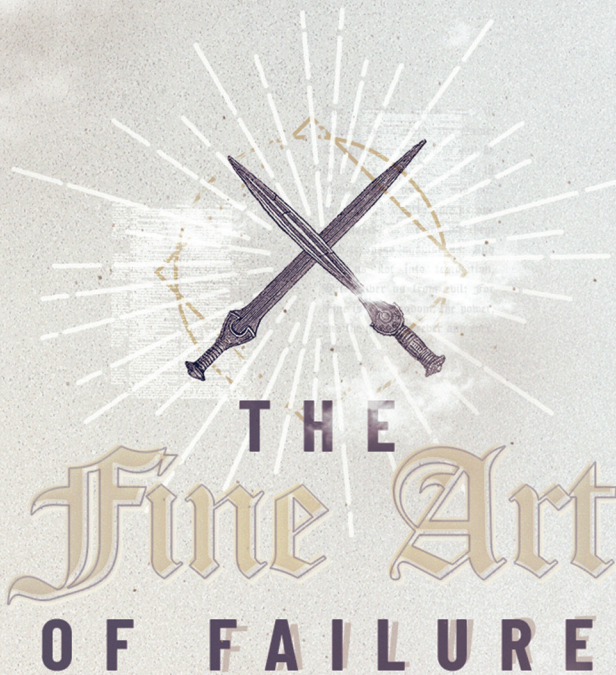




**Home Teams**  
DISCUSSION GUIDE



*A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF JUDGES*

**July 14 & 15**

# Pursuit Over Persuasion

WEEK 6 • JUDGES 11

## OPENING QUESTION

Share about a time you made a commitment to God that you did not keep.

## IN THE WORD

1. [Judges 10:6-9](#) tells us how Israel returned again to foreign gods. These were gods of self-indulgence and pleasure. How is this similar to the world today?
2. We read in [Judges 10:10-16](#) that the people cried out to the Lord after being tormented by the Philistines and Ammonites. At first, God does not seem to heed their cry ([vs.11-13](#)) but rebukes them. Then, in [verse 16](#), we read, God will act to rescue them again. What happens in [verses 10-16](#) to bring about a change from the God? What is the lesson in this message?
3. The elders of Gilead rejected Jephthah because of something beyond his control and who his mother was. Yet, when they needed his expertise as a military leader, they called him. How would you rate Jephthah's response to the elders on a scale of 1 to 10 (1=bad, and 10=great) in [Judges 11:7-10](#)? Why?
4. How is Jephthah trying to manipulate the Ammonite king in [Judges 11:24](#) (see [Deuteronomy 2:21](#)) and even God in [Judges 11:29-32](#)? What is the solution that you learned both last week and this week from these passages?
5. How does [Philippians 1:9-11](#) help us understand the statement, "Chose to pursue God not persuade Him?"

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

1. How do we avoid living like those around us in self-indulgence?
2. Have you ever heard someone say, “Everyone else is doing it and it is not a big deal” because they knew it was not a good thing. Based on this week’s message, how could you respond to that statement?
3. Have you ever felt rejection like Jephthah? How does God help us with rejection?
4. What are some ways we try to persuade God with “our ways” rather than just follow His ways?
5. Share with your Home Team one way you intentionally pursue God.

## CONTINUED LEARNING

Read [Psalm 2](#) and pick out ways to draw close to God. When you feel distant from God, you can read any Psalm to discover how David drew close God.

# Notes & Prayers



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