

Girl Please Bible Study 5: You Don't Have to Cry Alone – Judges 11:30-40

Getting Things Started

- Although vows to God usually couldn't be broken, Numbers 30:2-8 does include provisions for being able to break foolish vows made before the Lord (However, the provision assumes that the foolish vow is made by a young person rather than by that person's parent)
 - Although a family's name couldn't be passed on through a daughter, the blood line could still be passed on through the children the daughter had. If an only daughter were to die a virgin, however, the family line would die with her.
 - The common practice during the time of the Judges would be for household members to welcome home someone who returned after winning a battle.
- 1) During the 2016 General Conference, the AME Church passed legislation requiring members of the AME Church to commemorate the Emmanuel 9 on the Sunday nearest the date on which they were killed. Why do you think church communities tend to establish memorial celebration for members who were slain while serving God?

Into the Text

- 2) What evidence within the text might lead you to believe that Jephthah didn't know much about Jewish laws?

- 3) What do you think that Jephthah's daughter and her friends were in mourning about during their 2 months of wandering in the hills?

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- 4) Who do believe speaks words of faith during this lesson? What, within the text, backs up your belief?

Bringing Things Current

- 5) Although the status and welfare of women in the book of Judges tends to be better when the nation is united and faithful to God, there are moments when we see women of faith coming together to uphold one another even during times when their status and welfare is at its lowest. What does this tendency of women of God in particular and people of God in general coming together to mutually support each other tell you about how God works through communities of faith during difficult times?

- 6) This particular one is a difficult one because it's presented in a way that leaves us with as many questions as it provides answers. What are some questions that you're still left with after reading and studying the lesson? How does having these questions remain unanswered affect your faith?
