

**Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar:
Standing Up in a Low Down Culture**
Judges 3:7-31

Homework

Getting Started

1. What idiosyncrasies in others bother you?
2. Deuteronomy 10:17 says, "*For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no **partiality.***" How do you think God treats people with differences?

Going Deeper

Othniel: the judge who came from privilege - read 3:11-17

1. Was there evidence that Othniel was a brave and faithful man before he became a judge?
See Judges 1:12-13.
2. Why does God use a progressive method of preparation for His choice servants?
3. Caleb was Othniel's older brother (likely a half-brother with same father different mother). What benefits and dangers are there for younger brothers who have highly successful older brothers?
4. What made Othniel useful to the Lord? Was it his privileged family or his faith?
5. What role does a Christian family have in shaping children?
6. Why is it easy for people who grow up in a Christian home to fall away from God?

Ehud: the judge with a physical disability - read 3:12-23

1. What was Ehud's disability? Why was it considered a disability in ancient times?

2. Why is God not limited to use only people considered able?
3. How did Ehud actually use his disability as a benefit to fulfill God's mission for His life?
4. What things do you find disgusting about King Eglon?
5. If Ehud's story was created for the silver screen, what action thriller character would he be like?
6. What excuses have you used to excuse yourself from doing hard things?
7. What does Ehud's story tell you about courage and obedience?

Shamgar: the judge from the wrong side of the tracks - read 3:31

1. What can you see in verse 31 that points to Shamgar as a boy from the wrong side of town?
2. How did Shamgar do battle? What does this tell you about him?
3. Why is God not limited to using people born in the right family?
4. What does Shamgar teach you about God; about yourself; about others?

Getting Together

Pray audibly for one another's needs, realizing that this is part of being in fellowship with God and one another.