**What's Wrong with Our Nation?**

*Judges 2: 6 - 3:6*

Read Judges 2: 6 – 10.

1.  Why are the details of Joshua’s death and burial included?  What mood does this obituary set?  What important theological themes does it emphasize?  When compared to v. 7, what mood does v. 10 set?  Notice the contrasts between the generations in v. 7 and v. 10.  How can you pass on biblical covenant values to the next generation?

It shows that God is faithful to fulfill His promises.  The land which Joshua was promised was also the land that He was buried in.  God is faithful to His promises to those who live in obedience to His covenant.  We wonder if the next generation will be as faithful as the former one.

2.  Read 2: 11 – 3: 6.  How is Israel characterized in these verses?  (Focus on the various verbs used to describe Israel’s action.)  How is God characterized in these verses?  (Focus on the different verbs used to describe his response to Israel’s sin.)  Is there any reference to Israel’s repentance in these verses?  What is the significance of this?  What was the role of the judges?  Is there something you can repent of this week?  How can you demonstrate more trust in God?

The absence of any reference to repentance highlights God’s sovereign mercy and also suggests Israel’s spiritual poverty.

3.  What new information about Israel’s apostasy is given in 3: 6?  How did this sin contribute to the nation’s downfall?  (Ex. 34: 16, Deut. 7: 3 – 4, Josh. 23: 12 – 13.)  How can you guard your heart to date/marry someone who will influence you for godliness and not worldliness?  Are there other ways you can be influenced by worldliness, and how can you pursue godliness instead?