

## Judges #4

### *Three Steps to Israel's Tragic Decline*

Three steps to Israel's tragic decline:

They Didn't Listen to God

They Abandoned God

They Lost a Generation

#### **Judges 2:6-13 (NIV)**

<sup>6</sup> After Joshua had dismissed the Israelites, they went to take possession of the land, each to his own inheritance.

<sup>7</sup> The people served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had seen all the great things the LORD had done for Israel.

<sup>8</sup> Joshua son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of a hundred and ten.

<sup>9</sup> And they buried him in the land of his inheritance, at Timnath Heres in the hill country of Ephraim, north of Mount Gaash.

<sup>10</sup> After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who did not know the LORD or what he had done for Israel.

#### **Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess,

<sup>2</sup> so that you, your children and their children after <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

<sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

<sup>8</sup> Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

<sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

**A half-dozen things the church must do  
to impact the next generation for God.**

## The next generation did not know the Lord

To impact the next generation....

1. The church must not have a \_\_\_\_\_ faith but an \_\_\_\_\_ one.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart

2. The church must not be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in our behavior.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul

3. The church must act, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ as if God is the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup> Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one.

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

4. The church must act, speak, and live as if they have the \_\_\_\_\_ of them.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)**

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

<sup>6</sup> These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

<sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children.

5. The church must not rely on \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ instruction to pass on our \_\_\_\_\_, our faith must come out of our \_\_\_\_\_.

**Deuteronomy 6:1-9 (NIV)** <sup>7</sup> Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

**The next generation did not know what God did for Israel.**

The church must be obsessed with the past so they can be strong enough for the present.