COMMUNITY GROUPS
living out the gospel with one another in our homes

Date: 11/1/2026
Text: Judges 12:8 - 13:25
Sermon: Ted Rastatter
Questions: Phil Demeter

By now we are seeing the basic gist of Judges. All the way to the point that 12:8-15 speaks of these Judges in either good or bad light. 13:1 tells us “AGAIN they did what was evil in the sight of the Lord” yet this time they didn’t call out! Why is that? What is happening? Let’s chat:

1. What are some possible reasons that Israel did not call for the Lord at this point? Ted mentioned people telling him that this book of Judges seems like America today. What can be done to not be content with what’s going on around us?
2. The wife of Manoah was told that she would give birth though she had been barren. Prior to this discussion, how would she have felt not being able to give birth? Why would that parallel with Israel at the time? What are some of the similarities to Christ’s birth and Samson’s. What are some differences?
3. Manoah in 13:8 prays to the Lord to meet this man and gain understanding. What makes this significant at this time? Why would the Angel of the Lord not want to eat with Manoah and his wife? Why does Manoah think he will die after actually seeing the Angel of the Lord?
4. What is a Nazarite vow? Numbers 6:1-8 tells us what it looked like. Based on this, what was kind of unusual for Samson and this vow?
5. God’s desire for us is salvation, not condemnation yet we as a society live in such a way that we think that our actions would make a building crumble on us or set it on fire. But what does Romans 3:12 tell us? Now what does Romans 5:8 say?

We are not too far gone. We ALL sin. We ALL fall short. Manoah and his wife show us that we aren’t orchestrating our salvation but “At just the right time, when we were powerless, Christ died for the ungodly”. Manoah was working through all this with a true fear of God and obedience. His wife gave wisdom and calmed them both realizing they needed to just obey.

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