

FRILURE

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF JUDGES

What's the Worst That Could Happen?

OPENING QUESTIONS

- 1. Share an experience in which you or someone you know, panicked or overreacted.
- 2. This weekend's Bible account was extensive. Was there anything that you agreed with, disagreed with, or left you confused?

IN THE WORD

- 1. Begin by taking the time, as a group, to read Judges 19-21.
- 2. After reviewing this story, discuss: If you could, who in this story would you most likey talk with or what would you like to have seen? What would you like to learn from them?
- 3. Is there any reason you can think of why God allowed the tribes of Israel to suffer two defeats before they prevailed against the tribe of Benjamin? Is this detail important or not?
- 4. It was noted that that the phrase "they all came together as one" shows up in Judges 20:1, 8, and 11. Considering that Israel did not have a king, what would this mean and why would it be important?
- 5. In Judges 21:15-22, the tribes of Israel conjure up a plan to address their grief as well as the need of the Benjamite men to continue their lineage; all this without breaking this serious curse oath that they had taken. Does it appear as though God is happy with the result? Discuss the merits or drawbacks of this plan. What might they have done differently?

- Is there any issue you are experiencing now in which your judgment might be clouded because you are emotionally connected to it?
- 2. Can you recall a time when you failed to act when you should have?
- 3. Can you recall a time when you got involved and responded to a problem but probably should not have?
- 4. Have you ever found yourself involved in an issue or problem and later realized that you had a habit or personal issue that prevented you from being fair to others? Have you had a situation in which someone else was unfair to you for the same reason?
- 5. We often tend to avoid becoming involved because others will think we are being judgmental. Should you be intervening in something right now?

CONTINUED LEARNING

Read the previous story in Judges 17-18, a story which also appears to be written to demonstrate just how depraved conditions were during this time. Can you see similarities and differences between this story with the one on Judges 19-21?

Notes & Prayers

