

WELCOME TO



BELL CREEK
Community Church



MAY 3, 2026

**I WILL NEVER BREAK MY COVENANT WITH
YOU**

JUDGES 1:22 – 2:10

SERMON BY: PASTOR FRED WRIGHT

CURRENT SERMON SERIES:
JUDGES—THE GOD WHO DELIVERS

I WILL NEVER BREAK MY COVENANT WITH YOU

JUDGES 1:22 – 2:10

They Did Not Drive Out the Inhabitants

God Faithfully Confronts His People

Help the Next Generation Know the Lord Through His Glorious Deeds

FOR NEXT WEEK

Read Judges 2:11-3:6, but read as much of the Book of Judges as you can over, and over again! Write down observations and questions as you go!

DAILY CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE READING

MAY 3: PSALM 106-107
MAY 4: 2 SAMUEL 5:11-6:23; 1 CHRONICLES 13-16
MAY 5: PSALM 1-2, 15, 22-24, 47 & 68
MAY 6: PSALM 89, 96, 100, 101, 105 & 132
MAY 7: 2 SAMUEL 7; 1 CHRONICLES 17
MAY 8: PSALM 25, 29, 33, 36 & 39
MAY 9: 2 SAMUEL 8-9; 1 CHRONICLES 18

UPCOMING AT THE CREEK

GREETERS NEEDED

Our Greeter Ambassador team is in need of a few more smiling faces! This is a 45-minute commitment once a month, and a great way to serve on Sunday mornings. If you are interested, please contact Tim Pendell at 810-602-3774 or pendelltim@gmail.com

APOLOGETICS CLASS

Join Pastor Dylan in the Prayer Room at 11:00 AM for our Apologetics Class. If you have questions, please email dylan@bellcreek.org.

DAD CO

A New Community Just for Dads has just started! DadCo is an opportunity for dads to build real friendships, share honest advice on parenting and life, and find encouragement through monthly meetups and events. Whether you are a new dad or your kids are grown, DadCo equips you to thrive as a father, husband, and man-together in community. Join us at our next gathering on Monday, May 4 at 6:30 PM in the Prayer Room. Moving forward, the meetings will be the first Monday of each month, with a BBQ and connection in the near future. Please reach out to Alex Quint or email info@bellcreek.org to learn more.

AS THEY GO PRAYER MEETING

Join our group of parents of adult children to pray together in the Prayer Room from 9:00-10:00 AM on Saturday, May 10. We will continue to meet every month on the 2nd Saturday of the month moving forward. Join us as we cry out to God in praise for the amazing gift our children are and cry out for guidance and mercy as they navigate life as adults. Please reach out with any questions to Kelly Salter (ksalter1122@gmail.com).

THE GOOD FIGHT MEN'S STUDY

There is an exceptional opportunity for several men to attend a Bible study called The Good Fight - God's Plan for Every Man. The study provides men hope and healing through a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. God provides everything we need to win The Good Fight. Ron Peavler and Don Henderson will co-lead this Bible study. We will meet Thursday's from 6:30 - 8:00p.m for ten weeks. Our first meeting will be May 21st. To register contact Don Henderson at don.h@healinghearts.org.

VERTICAL MARRIAGE WORKSHOP

Mike & Mary King and Alex & Elyse Quint are hosting a 2-day Marriage Workshop on Friday, June 5 from 6:30-9:00 PM and Saturday, June 6 from 9:00 AM-12:30 PM at Bell Creek. "Vertical Marriage" by Dave and Ann Wilson provides a series of videos, small group discussions, and a couples' workbook. Registration is required, so if you would like to participate, please visit www.bellcreek.org. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Dylan (dylan@bellcreek.org) or Elyse Quint (elyse@bellcreek.org) No food is provided, but we will have coffee, tea, and water. Childcare is available upon request.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PRAYER MEETINGS

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:30 PM

FRIDAYS 12 NOON

PRE-TEEN & MIDDLE SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM

SUNDAYS AFTER WORSHIP

2ND SERVICE

AWANA

WEDNESDAYS 6:30 - 7:45 PM

SEPTEMBER-MAY

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS 11:00 AM

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES
AND EVENTS AT BELLCREEK.ORG

OUR MISSION

MATTHEW 22:37-40

He said to him, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest commandment. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the law and prophets depend on these two commandments."

MATTHEW 28:19-20

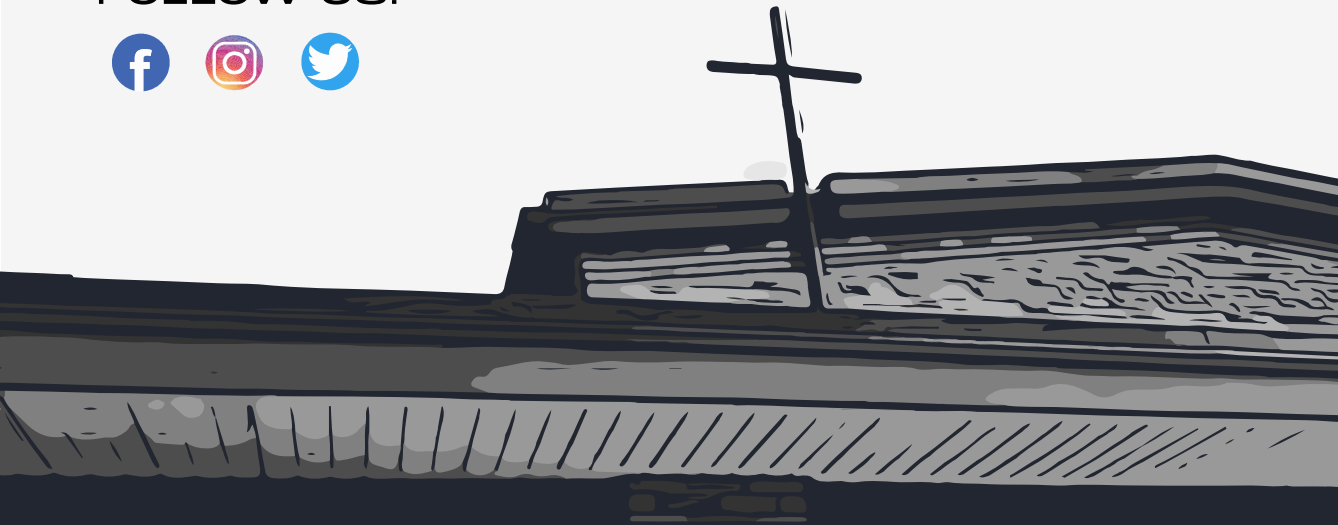
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe everything I have commanded you. And remember that I am with you always to the end of the age.

STAY CONNECTED

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU HERE!

WWW.BELLCREEK.ORG/CONTACT-US

FOLLOW US!



BELL CREEK
Community Church

30000 FIVE MILE RD.
LIVONIA, MI 48154

Sermon Series: Judges – The God Who Delivers

Sermon 2 | Judges 1:22-2:10

I Will Never Break My Covenant with You

Scripture Reading:

“But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.” (Hebrews 8:6, ESV)

They Did Not Drive Out the Inhabitants

Read Judges 1:22-36

How many times does the text say that “they did not drive out the inhabitants...?” 7 times! The number of completion. In this case, complete failure!

There were pragmatic reasons why Israel needed absolute control over many of these sites:

They would see the strategic folly of failing to possess Beth-shan (Judges 1:27). It was a massive site guarding the juncture of the Jordan and Jezreel valleys, through which “passed the main arteries of the ancient world.”

They would regret the failure to dominate Taanach, Ibleam, and Megiddo (Judges 1:27), crucial fortresses along the Plain of Esdraelon. If they had, maybe they could have prevented cocky Sisera (Judges 4–5) from strutting all over Israel.

We could also point out how strategic Gezer (Judges 1:29) was...

BUT the main again, the crucial motivation for driving out Canaanites was not pragmatic but spiritual. God had warned them through Moses: “Do not let those people live in your country; if you do, they will make you sin against me. If you worship their gods, it will be a fatal trap for you’ (Exod. 23:33).

The remaining Canaanites would not be so much a military threat as a spiritual cancer (see Exod. 23:23–33; 34:11–16; Deut. 7:1–5). That’s why Israel was to eliminate the Canaanites and the other nations in the land. That’s why Israel was to wreck and demolish all the temples and altars to their abominable gods.

This wasn’t going to be easy, but even in the difficulties, the Lord had a sovereign plan. He wanted them to do this in a somewhat gradually so that they could not be overrun by wild animals and keep control of the land (Exod. 23:29–30).

But it WAS to be done. And note, they DID have some military victories. And what did they do? They subjected many of these peoples to forced labor. Which there WERE NOT supposed to do! They were supposed to drive them out. If Canaan’s native populations are tolerated, it will lead Israel willy-nilly to intermarriage with these peoples and you can kiss covenant faithfulness good-bye (Exod. 34:15–16; Deut.

7:3–4). Their Grandkids will know the Lord as just another small “g” god who helps out with crops and fertility. So, when the author of Judges says, “they did not dispossess” it rings with spiritual emergency.

God Faithfully Confronts His People

“Now the angel of the LORD went up from Gilgal to Bochim. And he said, “I brought you up from Egypt and brought you into the land that I swore to give to your fathers. I said, ‘I will never break my covenant with you,’ (Judges 2:1, ESV)

Who is this Angel of the Lord? Well, this isn’t just any old “angel.” This is God. Moreover, we believe that the “angel of the LORD” is a pre-incarnate manifestation of the Son of God. Because one of the the roles of the Son of God is to reveal who God is!

Do you remember our sermon series on the Book of Jude?

“Now I want to remind you, although you once fully knew it, that Jesus, who saved a people out of the land of Egypt, afterward destroyed those who did not believe.” (Jude 5, ESV)

Why is the Angel of the Lord going up from Gilgal? Gilgal is not just a place, it represents something incredibly significant. Gilgal is Israel’s first camp after crossing the Jordan into the Promised land (Joshua 4–5). It’s where circumcision, the sign of the covenant was renewed (Joshua 5:2–9), the Passover was celebrated again, and it was their base of operations during faithful conquest. So, it was a place of obedience, renewal, and God’s presence.

What about Bochim? It means place of weeping.

Look at what he says: “I will never break my covenant with you.” What is a covenant? It’s an agreement between two parties. In this covenant, the agreement was “I will be your God, and you will be my people.” And God promised to give them life, peace, freedom from their enemies, abundance and joy in a land flowing with milk and honey. God has always been faithful to His promises, He is faithful to His promises, He always will be faithful to His promises.

What was their part in the covenant?

“and you shall make no covenant with the inhabitants of this land; you shall break down their altars.’ But you have not obeyed my voice. What is this you have done?” (Judges 2:2, ESV)

Their responsibility was to put away the awful gods they had worshipped, love the Lord and walk with Him, and drive out the inhabitants of the land who were going to lead them back into abominable idolatry and horrific practices.

“So now I say, I will not drive them out before you, but they shall become thorns in your sides, and their gods shall be a snare to you.” (Judges 2:3, ESV)

They couldn’t keep the covenant, and there are consequences for disobedience.

“As soon as the angel of the LORD spoke these words to all the people of Israel, the people lifted up their voices and wept. And they called the name of that place Bochim. And they sacrificed there to the LORD.” (Judges 2:4–5, ESV)

Question for those of us that Know Jesus: Where has the Lord been patiently confronting you? Has He been trying to call you back? Is there an area of compromise, fear, bitterness, hidden sin, or idolatry where He is saying, "What are you doing?" Bring it into the light! His covenant love is faithful. He forgives you, He will hear you, and He will help you walk with Him.

Help the Next Generation Know the Lord Through His Glorious Deeds

"When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. And the people served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great work that the LORD had done for Israel. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the LORD, died at the age of 110 years. And they buried him within the boundaries of his inheritance in Timnath-heres, in the hill country of Ephraim, north of the mountain of Gaash. And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel." (Judges 2:6–10, ESV)

We need to tell the next generation about the Lord and His Glorious deeds

This is for all of us whether we have kids or not. We all have a responsibility to pray for, witness to, and encourage the generation that is coming up in our church. And praise God we are doing that here at Bell Creek Community Church. It's happening right now, and on Wednesday nights, and it will happen at VBS, and it happens lots of other times too.

What about at home? Those of us who have kids, do they know? Are we reading the Word to them, talking about the Lord, and His Glorious deeds? Do we talk about what Jesus has done for us, and what we are looking forward to in the World to come? Are we praying for, and with, our kids and grandkids no matter how old they are? Do they see us worship Him? Do they see us depend on the Lord? How do we get through hard times? Do they see us trust God when we are losing it? How are we training our kids to cope? Are we training them to cope by seeking the Lord, trusting His word, and moving forward in faith even if it's hard? Do they see us repent when we're wrong and ask for forgiveness from the Lord and from them? This is what it means to help the next generation to know the Lord and His Glorious deeds.

We just saw that Israel was breaking the covenant they made with God. Foolish right? Well, isn't the same true of us? And when we see the consequences they had to face, it ought to make us say, "What am I going to do? I'm a covenant breaker too! I haven't loved the Lord with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength! I've got a zoo of idols in my life! I'm a sinner!"

Well, there is Good News for us! God sent His Son, Jesus to save covenant breakers and sinners like us. How does Jesus save us? He makes a new covenant with us.

Jesus came to keep the covenant, and be our representative "covenant keeper." Jesus kept the covenant perfectly. He never sinned. He loved God completely, walking in full obedience from His birth to His death. His perfect record of righteousness is what God requires of human beings and His righteousness becomes ours by faith.

Jesus absorbed the covenant curse. The consequence of sin is death, now and for eternity. Jesus, the only Savior paid for our sins. He doesn't just rebuke our failures, he bears the penalty of our sins on the cross (Gal. 3:13). When we trust Him, and believe that His death paid the penalty for our sins, we are forgiven forever.

But obedience is still a problem right? When we place our faith in Jesus, He changes our hearts. He gives us a new nature. We are transformed. The old covenant required our obedience, but it couldn't produce obedience from us. The new covenant in Jesus is written on our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Jer. 31:33). He gives us new hearts that begin to WANT to love Him and follow Him and obey Him. And the Holy Spirit helps us in everything.

The old covenant said obey Me and you shall live. The new covenant in Jesus says, "You are forgiven, beloved, children of God, filled with Holy Spirit, and destined to live forever with Me in my kingdom. Therefore, because you are alive forevermore, follow Me, obey Me for I am your God and you are my people."

THIS new covenant with Jesus cannot be broken from our side. How is that possible? This NEW covenant rests on Christ's perfect obedience, not ours. This new covenant removed our sin and failures by the death and resurrection of Christ, so there is no more covenant curse for us. God swears by Himself that these things are true (Heb. 6:13–17).

Question for Those who are Considering Jesus: Have you come to the point in your life that you've finally realized you JUST CAN'T obey God no matter how many resolutions you make or how hard you try? Well, you're in good company. You need a Savior like everyone in this room. Jesus came for covenant breakers like us, people who have not loved God as they should, and cannot heal themselves. Will you come to Him, the covenant-keeping Savior who forgives sinners, gives new hearts, new life, and welcomes all who trust in Him?

Question for Those Who Are Suffering: When life feels like Bochim, a place of weeping, remember that In Christ, your suffering doesn't mean God has forgotten you. Just the opposite. He has bound Himself to you in Jesus, given you His Spirit, and promised to finish what He began. Where do you need to hear again: "I will never break my covenant with you"?

BENEDICTION:

"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it."
(1 Thessalonians 5:23–24, ESV)



I Will Never Break My Covenant with You

1. What did you think of the sermon "I Will Never Break My Covenant with You"?

2. What are some ways we partially obey God today? What can happen in our lives when we allow those areas of compromise to remain?

3. Why do you think God confronts us instead of leaving us alone? How is His correction a sign of His love?

4. What do you think causes people to forget or not know God? What is a good way you can help someone else grow in knowing Him?

5. How does knowing that your relationship with God rests on Jesus (not your own performance or deeds) change the way you deal with sin, failure, or hard times?

