

# Introduction: Again and Again and Again

#### Judges 2:10

After that whole generation had been gathered to their ancestors,

another generation grew up who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel.

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

### Judgment and Reconciliation

#### The "Big Idea"

God <u>DEMONSTRATES</u>
that he will not <u>GIVE</u>
<u>UP</u> on his people.

# A. Isn't It Ironic

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

Bent toward sin

#### Often, God brings deliverance from UNEXPECTED sources and in UNEXPECTED manners.

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

God's plan is accomplished through individuals

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

### The peoples' lack of dependence on God

#### Often, God brings deliverance from UNEXPECTED sources and in UNEXPECTED manners.

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

God's love for "outsiders" and "foreigners"

#### B. You of Little Faith

#### Judges 2:11

Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals.

#### They forsook the LORD, the God of their ancestors, who had brought them out of Egypt.

They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They aroused the Lord's anger

#### because they forsook him and served Baal and the Ashtoreths.

# Sometime our FAITH is not FUNCTIONING properly.

#### **Ephesians 4:17-19**

So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord,

that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.

# They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God

because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

#### Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality

#### so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed.



#### Ezekiel 11:18-20

"They will return to it and remove all its vile images and detestable idols.

#### I will give them an undivided heart and put a new spirit in them;

#### I will remove from them their <u>heart of</u> stone and give them a heart of flesh.

Then they will follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws. They will be my people, and I will be their God.

#### "BIG THEME(s)":

Bent toward sin

# God's solution to our REBELLION is to give us new HEARTS.

#### **Ephesians 4:23-24**

to be made new in the attitude of your minds;

and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

## D. "Will You Help Me"?

#### The "Big Idea"

God <u>DEMONSTRATES</u>
that he will not <u>GIVE</u>
<u>UP</u> on his people.

# Sometime our FAITH is not FUNCTIONING properly.

Christianity is not a SPECTATOR sport (religion), it is PARTICIPATION in God's work through Jesus in the power of the Spirit.

#### Ephesians 4:20-22

That, however, is not the way of life you learned

when you heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.

# You were taught, with regard to your former way of life,

# to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires....

# God's solution to our REBELLION is to give us new HEARTS.

Christianity is not a SPECTATOR sport (religion), it is PARTICIPATION in God's work through Jesus in the power of the Spirit.



#### "Action Point

# Learn from Jesus to be OBEDIENT and to SERVE.

