

Recap of 4/2/17 (Judges 2:1-10):

1. During the period of the conquest and after, Israel failed to drive out their enemies, to break down their altars, and to make no alliances with them. As a result God withdrew His help. “The conquest was initially incomplete because of Israel’s disobedience...the continued incomplete conquest is the result of God’s judgment.” (Bowling)
2. “Author B. J. Miller wrote, ‘It’s a great deal easier to do what God gives us to do—no matter how hard that is—than to face the responsibilities of not doing it.’ No matter how many times we pursue our own ways and neglect the path God calls us to travel, we experience the same result. Our way inevitably leads to a less desirable outcome. We may not realize it at the time, but we always pay a price when we ignore God’s instructions. Whether we turn away from God part of the way or completely, we’re putting something else ahead of Him. We forget the commitment we made to follow God and instead follow the ‘god’ of the moment.” (Men’s Devotional Bible)
3. Judges 1:1 and 2:8 mention Joshua’s death at 110. His name means “YHWH [Jehovah] saves.” He was born in Egypt, a slave, and became an accomplished General under Moses. He was one of the twelve spies to go into the Promised Land and one of only two [Caleb being the other] to counsel taking the land. He was 80 years old when he succeeded Moses and led the Israelites in the conquest. He was about at the century mark when God tasked him with dividing the land (Josh. 13:1-7). “Age didn’t matter to God. Rather than telling Joshua to rest, retire or step aside for a younger replacement, God instructed him to get to work. Perhaps we should take a cue from God in our attitude toward aging.” (Author not known) You never ‘age-out’ of service to God.
4. Sadly, the next generation (after Joshua and the generation of the conquest) did not know or follow the Lord. The knowledge of what God had done for them was either not passed on to them or was rejected by them.
5. “Homes should be training grounds to develop habit patterns that serve Jesus Christ. And then we’ll avoid the tragedy described in Judges 2:10—another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what He had done.” (Howard Hendricks)
6. What are we doing to pass on our faith to our children? While the church can assist parents in their responsibility to disciple and train their children in Biblical truth, the main responsibility for discipling and training children, Biblically, falls to the parents (Deuteronomy 6:4ff). You can’t outsource discipling your children, whatever their age.