



June 18, 2026

BOOK: Judges 16:23-31;17

Opening Questions:

- a. Who in your family do you think deserves more compassion?
- b. If there were no moral or criminal laws in the U.S., what is one thing you would do?
- c. Name a way people today create their own versions of religion or spirituality.
- d. What spiritual practice are you most consistent?

Chapter 16:23-31 Discussion Questions

1. Did Samson violate his Nazirite vow? If you break the vow, are there any consequences?
2. Who is Dagon? Why might the Philistines attribute Samson's downfall to him? (*15:5, 1 Chron. 10:10, 1 Sam. 5:1-6*)
3. Discuss the significance of Samson's hair growing back. How did Samson view it?
4. Does Samson's prayer and final act show his return to faith or just his usual character?
5. What role does God play in Samson's final act? Is God endorsing it, permitting it, or using it despite Samson?
6. Is Samson's death more like suicide, martyrdom, or warfare? Explain. (*John 15:13*)
7. In what ways can we see the mercy of God in Samson's final act?
8. How does God's willingness to answer Samson's final prayer encourage people who feel they've failed spiritually?

9. How does Samson's inclusion in Hebrews 11:32 affect your interpretation of his death?

10. Why do you think God used Samson? Or any of the judges? Compare.
11. What is the most tragic thing about Samson's life? Redeeming? (*Heb. 11:32; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:10*)

Chapter 17

12. How does the author's statement in verse 6 reflect the state of national and individual spirituality?
13. Why do you think Micah confessed to the theft? Was he feeling guilty?
14. Discuss all the religious activities going on in Micah's family.
15. How does Micah's mother shift from cursing the stolen silver to dedicating it for an idol? Is her response reasonable?
16. Is there religious consistency in this household?
17. Was the mom's dedication of 200 shekels (130 lbs.) of silver an act of faith? (*Acts 6*)
18. Why does Micah feel justified in creating his own household shrine, despite the prohibition against idol worship?
19. Is there anything wrong with the bargain Micah struck with the young Levite? (*Deut. 12:4-14, Num. 35:6-8, Jos. 21,*)
20. Discuss the character of Micah and the young Levite. What's motivating them?
21. How does the 10 shekels compare with the 1100 shekels he stole?

22. Is there a bottom-line assumption Micah is operating from? If so, what is it? (*Ex. 32:5*)
23. What is a contemporary equivalent to having a Levite in the home?
24. How can you apply the lessons from Micah's story to your personal life?