

1. Read Together: Read Judges 9:1-6. Where do you see insecure ambition at work in Abimelech and where might it show up in us? **Supporting Scripture: James 3:14-16**

## **& Philippians 2:3-4**

a. Follow-Up Questions:

i. What was Abimelech really after, power or validation?

ii. Why do you think the people funded him?

iii. Have you ever wanted influence for the wrong reasons?

2. Read Together: Judges 9:7-15. Why did the olive tree, fig tree, and vine refuse leadership? What does that reveal? **Supporting Scripture: Ezekiel 22:30 & Galatians**

## **6:9**

a. Follow-Up Questions:

i. Is there a difference between humility and avoidance?

ii. Where are you tempted to “stay out of it” when you should step in?

iii. In your home or workplace, what grows when leadership is passive?

3. Read Together: Judges 9:22-24. What does it mean that God “sent an evil spirit” between Abimelech and Shechem? **Supporting Scripture: Romans 1:24-28 &**

## **Hebrews 12:6-11 & Galatians 6:7-8**

a. Follow-Up Questions:

i. Have you ever experienced the consequences of your own decisions?

ii. Why is God sometimes more concerned with shaping us than shielding us?



4. Read Together: Judges 9:50-57. What stands out about Abimelech's final request?

**Supporting Scripture: Proverbs 28:13 & Psalm 51**

a. Follow-Up Questions:

iv. Why was he more concerned with reputation than repentance?

iv. How do we sometimes protect image instead of confessing sin?

5. Read Together: Judges 9 (overview) John 10:11-15. How does Jesus contrast with

Abimelech? **Supporting Scripture: Colossians 1:15-20 & Matthew 11:28-30**

a. Follow-Up Questions:

i. Abimelech killed his brothers. Jesus calls us brothers. What does that mean?

ii. What kind of king does your heart naturally gravitate toward strong and controlling or humble and sacrificial?

iii. What would it look like to fully surrender leadership of your life?

