

# Growth Teams

Week Beginning  
Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017

## Going deeper

This Psalm is a long one that seeks to draw lessons from the history of Israel travelling through the wilderness after God had rescued them from slavery in Egypt. Verses 1-8 give the main teaching point, whilst the rest of the Psalm recites a summary of this part of Israel's history to underline the point.

## Read Psalm 78:1-8, 32-43

4. In verses 1-7 what does the Psalmist hope to achieve by his teaching?
5. How does verse 8 summarise the attitude of Israel in the wilderness? In what way does this reflect their behaviour in the book of Judges?
6. In verses 32-43 what contrasts are drawn between God and Israel? (Compare especially issues of remembering and faithfulness).
7. How did God respond to their unfaithfulness?
8. How do verses 32-43 underline the need to make sure the next generation know about God (vs. 6-7)?

***Now do the applying it to our lives questions...***

## Growth Team News

If you are free at any of the times for Growth Teams below, then why not give one a try? They are a great opportunity to build real friendships with other Christians and to grow deeper in your faith with God.

We are looking to start new teams in the autumn, so if you cannot make any of the times below, but would like to be a part of a team, then please see Paul, the vicar and we'll try to make sure a new one is set up that you can make.



**Growing in Christ  
to glorify God  
and enjoy Him forever.**

## Divine Sovereignty and human comedy:

### The Story of Ehud

*Judges 3:12-30 (page 244)*

*Space to take notes on the talk*

#### Starter question

- ❖ What kind of comedy do you most enjoy?

#### Responding to the talk

1. What did you find most challenging, encouraging or shocking from this week's sermon?
2. Read Judges 2:10-19
  - a. What was the general pattern of events during the period of the Judges?
  - b. According to verses 10-11 what led to the Israelites worshipping idols? What can we learn from this?
  - c. What do you think God wanted Israel and us to learn from the historical events in Israel at this time?
3. Read Judges 3:12-30
  - a. How does the story of Ehud fit the general pattern of Judges?
  - b. Why did Eglon the Moabite have power over Israel?
  - c. Why did God give Israel a deliverer?
  - d. Why was Ehud successful?
  - e. Does God approve of Ehud's deception? Can you think of other instances in the Bible where deception is justified? (e.g. Gen. 44:1-5; Exo. 1:15-20).
  - f. How do you feel about the 'comic' elements in the story of Ehud? Why do you think the Bible includes stories like these?
  - g. How is Jesus a better saviour than Ehud?

*You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.*

#### Applying it to our lives

9. How can we ensure that we and the children who follow on after us do not forget about God's greatness and love? (cf. 2:10)
10. When Israel is oppressed they cried out to God (3:15). How can we encourage people who are going through tough times in life or worried about events to turn to God?