

***Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further***  
***International Bible Lessons***

**Judges 11:4-11 & 29-31**

**Sunday, June 18, 2017**

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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

**Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further**

**1. Since God did not speak to Jephthah as He did to Gideon. do you think God wanted Jephthah to be a judge? Give a reason for your answer.**

Yes. God does not always use the same means with every person when He calls them to serve Him. Jephthah was prepared to be an army commander and leader to defeat the Ammonites; he prayed to the LORD, and the LORD put His Spirit upon him and used him to save Israel from their enemies. Sometimes (probably most often?) God uses circumstances and our desires and our previous experiences and preparations and the Bible’s teachings and the Spirit’s leadings to call us to serve Him without saying a word.

**2. Jephthah was rejected by his brothers and the elders of Gilead. Can you think of anyone else in the Bible who some people rejected but God chose to do His will?**

King David and Jesus Christ.

**3. What did Jephthah do right in his relationship with God?**

He prayed to the LORD and declared to others that his success depended on the LORD.

**4. What did Jephthah do wrong in his relationship with God?**

He made a foolish vow and violated the Law of God when he made a sacrifice and murdered his daughter.

**5. What is one truth you learned from the life of Jephthah?**

We may be rejected by others and have lived imperfectly, but God can still choose to call us and empower us to help others and serve Him. After God uses us to fulfill His will, we still need to continue to obey God according to the Bible's teachings.

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