

MOOREBANK HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCHES
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION
JUDGES 11 - Jephthah

Read Judges 10:6-18

1. What is wrong now? How does God respond? What do you think he wants the people to realise?
2. Compare the people's actions in verse 10 with verses 15-16 – have Israel understood?

Read Judges 10:17-11:11

3. How is the elder's treatment of Jephthah the same as the way they've treated God?
4. The Israelites presumed on God's forgiveness. They thought that when things got bad they could 'do the repentance thing' and God would deliver them. How are we tempted to do the same as Christians?
5. How can you tell if you are sincerely repentant? (see 2 Corinthians 7:10 for something to feed your discussion)

Read Judges 11:27-12:7

6. How do we know God is with Jephthah?
7. Why does Jephthah make a vow to the Lord in verses 30-31?
8. According to 35 why does Jephthah go through with his vow? Who is Jephthah concerned about in verse 35?
9. Do you feel sympathetic towards Jephthah or his daughter? Why?
10. Should you always keep your word (Psalm 15:4)? What if they involve evil, or doing something that is not loving? Read Deuteronomy 12:29-31 to help you understand whether Jephthah should have gone through with his vow?
11. How do you think we might be tempted to manipulate God?
12. In Hebrews 11, Jephthah is recalled as somebody whose faith was commended. Where in his life's story do you think he demonstrates commendable faith? Where does his faith go wrong? How can we avoid his kind of mistakes?