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## DOING WHAT'S RIGHT WHEN EVERYONE ELSE IS DOING WRONG

The judges weren't courtroom lawyers — *shopet* means ruler, commander, deliverer

They were military leaders raised up by God

The cycle repeats over and over:

- Israel sins → enemies oppress them → Israel cries out → God raises a judge → Israel is delivered → repeat
- They forgot who God was so they just did what was

The book highlights 12 judges total

The question the whole book is really asking: Is Israel's problem their lack of a human king, or their unwillingness to regard God as their true king?

**Key Verse:** *"In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes."* — Judges 21:25

- Samson was called to be a Nazirite — holy, set apart, before he was even born
- But he lived like everyone else around him

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## POINT 1: To do what's right, you must know the Righteous ONE.

*"Be still, and know that I am God."* — Psalm 46:10

- Most of us don't really know God deeply — just a list of rules
- His names alone tell you who you're dealing with:
  - YHWH — I Am Who I Am
  - Elohim — The Mighty Creator
  - El Shaddai — Lord God Almighty
  - Jehovah Jireh — The Lord Will Provide
  - Jehovah Rapha — The Lord Who Heals
  - Jehovah Shalom — The Lord Is Peace
- When you know who He is, your response becomes reverence and gratitude — not a checklist
- We are products of our environment — what we watch, listen to, who we hang with
- Those things are discipling us — just not toward Christ
- Samson kept looking at the culture until he preferred it over God
- The more time you spend with God, the more you'll know there's nothing better

- The more you look at something, the more you want it
- Be still — not just in your head, but in your heart
  - Read your Bible. Pray. Fast. Worship. Go to church.

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**POINT 2: Knowing and doing are not the same thing.**

*"Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and immediately forgets what he looks like." — James 1:23–25*

- Samson knew the rules — he just kept choosing the world anyway
  - Ate honey from a dead carcass
  - Threw a party and drank
  - Slept with a prostitute
  - You become what you behold - what you give you attention to
- We move in the direction of our strongest thoughts
- You love God. You go to church. But then...
  - You watch and listen to things you shouldn't
  - One missed week becomes two, becomes months
  - You have no idea how you got there
- That's how Samson got to Delilah
  - She kept asking for his secret. He kept going back.
  - He'd rather live in sin than walk with God
  - Until he told her the truth — and it was over
- That's how sin traps you: *"Nothing happened... see? I'm fine."*
  - Then one day you're far from God wondering what happened
- But God says He will never leave you or forsake you
  - Like Samson — just cry out: *Lord, help me.*
- You cannot be holy and still live for the world
- Shoe story
- He still know who he supposed to be -Judges 17 So he told her everything. "No razor has ever been used on my head," he said, "because I have been a Nazirite dedicated to God from my mother's womb. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man."

Judge16- **28** Then Samson prayed to the LORD, "Sovereign LORD, remember me.

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**POINT 3: Be consistent — daily.**

*"Stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." — 1 Corinthians 15:58*

- Do the right small things consistently over time — watch what God does
  - The world says the easy road is better
    - It might look easy now — but it leads nowhere worth going
  - Every day you're taking steps toward Jesus or toward the world
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**CLOSING CALL:**

- Do what's right
- Know the Righteous One
- Let what you know become what you do
- Be consistent — every single day