

I am about to be going back to college, highly motivated, staying productive and organized. A lot of positivity but it will get hard. I think it is because there is an enemy at work. This happens in any change or habit or lifestyle. When we try to do our best, there is an enemy at work. In fact, this is our worst enemy. This sounds a lot like:

- **Joshua 24:14-18** – Seems great! But then the book of Judges.
- “The people did what was right in their own eyes.”
- Their worst enemy was themselves
- Whether in my personal, college goals or in Israel’s national goals, there are mistakes that will block success.

Then – Your Worst Enemy - Themselves

[] KEPT POOR INFLUENCES AROUND THEMSELVES

- **Judges 1:27-35** – Didn’t wipe them out fully as they were supposed to.
- **Joshua 23:6-8, 12-13** – God was specific about why. They would be a trap to them and God would no longer be with them.
- Since they didn’t drive them out, the people worshipped idols and intermarried with them.
- Israel was their own worst enemy. SO, me in college – Hang with the wrong people, won’t get stuff done.

[] KEPT KNOWLEDGE TO THEMSELVES

- **Judges 2:7-10** – Next generation didn’t know God because they didn’t teach their children.
- God had clearly told them to pass it on – **Deuteronomy 4:9-10; 6:20-21; 11:18-21; 32:46.**
- Since they didn’t share the knowledge – **Judges 2:11-15** – God’s anger burned against them.
- Israel was their own worst enemy. SO, me in college – If everybody else understands a concept and I don’t then if I don’t actively seek it then I won’t succeed – vice versa.

[] KEPT IDOLS AMONGST THEMSELVES

- **Judges 3:12; 4:1; 6:1...** - They would go right back to it. Idols = Anything that takes us from God
- It would be either a blessing or a curse for Israel – **Deuteronomy 11:26-28**
- Since Israel kept returning to the things that took them from God, he continually punished them.
- Israel was their own worst enemy SO, me in college – Can’t keep things that are distracting or replace education.
 - Sleep in instead of going to class, hang with the boys rather than do homework, ...

Joshua 24:15 - WE HAVE THESE SAME DESIRE, BUT we can be our worst enemy today.

[] REMOVE INFLUENCE

- The Israelites had the influence of the other nations that caused them to stumble
- We too have people we associate with that can cause us to stumble
- **1 Corinthians 15:33**
- We need to be careful who we hang with or it could potentially harm us. – College - Friends

[] SHARE KNOWLEDGE

- Israel had a generation who did not know God because they didn’t proclaim it.
- We can also have this effect on people around us, children, friends.
- **2 Timothy 2:1-2**
- There are people around us that don’t know God and need to. Share it. – College – Share IMPORTANT info.

[] DISCARD IDOLS

- Israel had things that constantly took them from God – that’s an idol.
- We need to get those idols in our lives out.
- **Matthew 6:24; 5:29-30**
- Fill in the blank God and _____. Can’t serve both. Idol. We’ve got to get it out! – College – God is #1

In all of these, none of them just happen to us. We have the ability to make changes to these situations. If we get in these circumstances it is because we choose to. We have a choice!

Joshua 24:15 – We have a choice to stand like Joshua. No matter what we have a choice. Choose to serve God!