

**CRAZY ASKS #2**  
**Kenny Luck**

***“The people of the land have practiced extortion and committed robbery, and they have oppressed the poor and needy, and have oppressed the stranger without justice. I searched for a man among them who would build up a wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one. So I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; I have brought their way upon their heads,” declares the Lord GOD. Ezekiel 22:29-31 NASB***

HUMAN \_\_\_\_\_.

CRITICAL \_\_\_\_\_.

PERSONAL \_\_\_\_\_.

UNKNOWN \_\_\_\_\_.

***“All the world’s a stage and all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances and one man in his time plays many parts.”***  
*William Shakespeare (from “As You Like It” spoken by Jacques)*

***“He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.” Ephesians 2:10 MSG***

**JEPHTHAH: IMPERFECT MAN BUT PERFECT FOR THE JOB**

**THE BACK STORY**

***“Jephthah the Gileadite was a mighty warrior. His father was Gilead; his mother was a prostitute. Gilead’s wife also bore him sons, and when they were grown up, they drove Jephthah away. “You are not going to get any inheritance in our family,” they said, “because you are the son of another woman.” So Jephthah fled from his brothers and settled in the land of Tob, where a gang of scoundrels gathered around him and followed him.” Judges 11:1-3 NIV***

JEPHTHAH HAD \_\_\_\_\_.

JEPHTHAH HAD \_\_\_\_\_.

JEPHTHAH HAD \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE CRAZY ASK**

***Some time later, when the Ammonites were fighting against Israel, the elders of Gilead went to get Jephthah from the land of Tob. “Come,” they said, “be our commander, so we can fight the Ammonites.” Jephthah said to them, “Didn’t you hate me and drive me from my father’s house? Why do you come to me now, when you’re in trouble?” The elders of Gilead said to him, “Nevertheless, we are turning to you now; come with us to fight the Ammonites, and you will be head over all of us who live in Gilead.” Judges 11:4-8 NIV***

THE SITUATION \_\_\_\_\_.

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**A RISKY “YES” RELEASES NEW REWARDS AND A NEW CHAPTER**

***Jephthah answered, “Suppose you take me back to fight the Ammonites and the LORD gives them to me—will I really be your head?” The elders of Gilead replied, “The LORD is our witness; we will certainly do as you say.” So Jephthah went with the elders of Gilead, and the people made him head and commander over them. And he repeated all his words before the LORD in Mizpah.***

*Judges 11:9-10 NIV*

A YES TO GOD MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

A YES TO GOD MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

A YES TO GOD MEANS \_\_\_\_\_.

**THE REST OF THE STORY**

*Then the Spirit of the LORD came on Jephthah. He crossed Gilead and Manasseh, passed through Mizpah of Gilead, and from there he advanced against the Ammonites. And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD: "If you give the Ammonites into my hands, whatever comes out of the door of my house to meet me when I return in triumph from the Ammonites will be the LORD's, and I will sacrifice it as a burnt offering." Then Jephthah went over to fight the Ammonites, and the LORD gave them into his hands. He devastated twenty towns from Aroer to the vicinity of Minnith, as far as Abel Keramim. Thus Israel subdued Ammon. Jephthah led Israel six years. Then Jephthah the Gileadite died and was buried in a town in Gilead. Judges 11:29-33, 12:7*

GOD'S SAYING: \_\_\_\_\_.

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**THE KEY?**

\_\_\_\_\_!

**FOR DISCUSSION:**

**HOW DOES KNOWING YOU ARE PART OF A STORY GOD IS WRITING AND THAT YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC ROLE TO PLAY IN IT ALTER YOUR PERSPECTIVE?**

**DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCES OR CHAPTERS OF YOUR LIFE THAT ARE OBSTACLES TO YOU SAYING YES TO GOD?**

**WHAT CIRCUMSTANCES HAVE FORCED YOU INTO A "GOD'S INVITATION" LIKE JEPHTAH? WHAT EMOTIONS DID YOU HAVE TO FIGHT?**

**WHAT DOES JEPHTAH'S STORY AND DECISION MODEL FOR US?**

**WHAT DOES JEPHTAH'S STORY TELL YOU ABOUT GOD?**

**HOW CAN YOU APPLY TODAY'S SESSION IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?**

