

Life Group Discussion Guide
Mulligans II
Can I Get a Morality Mulligan?
Judges 16
August 29, 2010

1. Look at some of the Samson story that we skipped over (Judges 13-16)...any thoughts about the choices Samson might have wished he made differently?
2. Wonder together about the sort of impact moral choices can have on your life? Maybe some in the group have witnessed bad moral choices that have had life-long consequences. What are those...can you share them in a way that brings warning, but not condemnation?
3. Read II Timothy 3:16. Have you had an experience where someone lovingly (but with conviction) warned you, rebuked you, or corrected you? Was that experience beneficial? How did you respond? Were you able to take a little rebuking and correcting?
4. The C.S. Lewis quote for you ponder: *Finally, though I have had to speak at some length about sex, I want to make it as clear as I possibly can that the centre of Christian morality is not here. If anyone thinks that Christians regard unchastity as the supreme vice, he is quite wrong. The sins of the flesh are bad, but they are the least bad of all sins. All the worst pleasures are purely spiritual: the pleasure of putting other people in the wrong, of bossing and patronizing and spoiling sport, and back-biting, the pleasures of power, of hatred. For there are two things inside of me, competing with the human self which I must try to become. They are the Animal self, and the Diabolical self. The Diabolical self is the worse of the two. That is why a cold, self-righteous prig who goes regularly to church may be far nearer to hell than a prostitute. But, of course, it is better to be neither.*¹ Do you think he's right? Is this a challenge to your thinking?
5. *Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.* This is a quote generally attributed to 19th century English politician Lord Acton, but certainly finds its roots as early as the Greek philosophers. How does this statement tie in with what C.S. Lewis wrote? What echoes of these thoughts do you find in the words of Jesus? (Think Sermon on the Mount!) ☺

¹ Lewis, C.S. *Mere Christianity*. San Francisco: HarperCollins, 1952.