

“The messiness of life”

Joshua 9

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1. Pastor Jim mentioned at the beginning of his sermon that real life stories are typically messy and do not pan out in ideal ways. Think of:
 - i. A biblical character (besides the example Jim used) who exemplifies this.
 - ii. A friend or relative that this is true of.
 - iii. An example in your life that demonstrates life’s messiness.
2. Please discuss the following: Why would messiness be a sign of authenticity regarding our situations in life?
3. The people of Israel fell for a ruse when the Gibeonites fooled them. Can you think of a time in your life when you were cheated or maybe a time when you cheated someone else into agreeing to something you knew was wrong? What perspective does today’s teaching give to you about that situation?
4. What blessing(s) are you currently experiencing because of your sin and what perspective does this give you on sin?
5. In what ways do you think you are beyond God’s ability to reach you or your situation?
6. Please discuss theologically how emphasizing the greatness of our mess brings God more glory.
7. Take time to pray with your group. Read Psalm 40:1-3 aloud. Reflect on these words of David and rejoice in the ways that God has saved you from your mess.