

Getting started: How has a woman come to your aid or saved you from harm in your life?

Read 4:1-11**Deborah calls for Barak**

1. What happened to God's people after Ehud died? How did God respond? How had Jabin gained the upper hand against Israel? What did the oppression cause Israel to do? (vv. 1-3)
2. When Deborah appears in verse 4, what is different about her from the judges we have seen previously in the book? What message does she send to Barak? What does Barak ask in reply? (vv. 6-8) What does Deborah warn will be the outcome of the battle as a result?
3. Where did Barak gather his troops? Where did Sisera gather his chariots? In your opinion, which army had the upper hand? Where did the two armies face off? (vv. 12-13) Bonus question: All of these points are located in proximity to what major geographic feature?
4. Who nudged Barak to engage the enemy? (v. 14) What might have precipitated the battle's engagement that very day? (5:4-5) What was Sisera forced to do? (v. 15).

Read 4:12-24**Victory at the River Kishon**

5. How successful was Barak and his army against Sisera? (v. 16) Where did Sisera hope to find safety after running for his life? (v. 17)
6. What kindness did Jael show to Sisera? (vv. 18-19) What additional kindness did Sisera request? (v. 20)
7. How did Jael end his plans that day? (v. 21) How was the prophecy of verse 9 doubly fulfilled that day? What did the victory that day eventually secure? (vv. 23-24)

Read 5:1-5, 16-18, 20-22, 31**Song of Deliverance**

8. To whom do Deborah and Barak give credit for avenging Israel against her enemies? (vv. 1-5) What should Christians be careful to do when we experience victory in our lives and church? (Psalm 18:29-30)
9. What tribes failed to respond to the call to fight? (vv. 16-18) How should we respond when the righteous call out for help? (Gal. 6:2, Romans 15:1)
10. How did the heavens show sympathy for Israel? (vv. 20-22) With what prayerful hope does the song end? (v. 31)

Going Deeper

11. In these chapters two women Deborah and Jael prove instrumental in the victory God gave. What is the Bible's teaching about the benefit of womanhood in the home and in the church (Pr. 31:28-29; 1 Cor. 11:5; Titus 2:3-4; 1 Peter 3:7)? What should the attitude of Christian men be toward women? (c.f. Romans 16:1-4)