

Deborah: Woman of Valor in a Sea of Wimpy Men *Judges 4-5*

Homework

Getting Started

1. Apart from your mother or wife (if you are married), who is the greatest women you ever met?
2. What made her great in your eyes?

Going Deeper (Read Judges 4:1-23)

1. What familiar cycle is repeated in verses 1-3?
2. Does this potential danger lurk today? Why?
3. Have you ever known someone who struggled with a sin for 20 years? What hardship and bondage did you observe in them?
4. What was life like in Israel under Canaanite domination (5:6-7)?
5. What made Sisera's army seem so unbeatable? How was Israel's army outmanned, out positioned and out supplied?
6. What was the role God gave to Deborah before the battle with Sisera?
7. Would you like listening to the complaints and problems of people like Deborah did?
8. What does this tell you about her character and her calling?
9. When the word of the Lord came to Deborah telling her to lead Israel to victory, who did she enlist? Why? What does this say about Deborah's way of leading others?
10. Why is that a good principle of leadership for your life?

11. How do you think Barak felt when he was asked to lead the charge against such lopsided odds?
12. What did he ask of Deborah that gave him courage? What did Deborah predict that would reflect poorly on Barak? Do you think Barak cared after the whole thing was over?
13. How did the Lord bring about the defeat of Sisera (5:4-5;20-21)?
14. What was Sisera's bizarre fate (4:17-21)? The Bible doesn't specifically say, but can you venture a guess why Jael took such drastic action?

Growing Stronger

1. When you celebrate a victory do you tend to cry? Laugh? Dance? Write poetry? Sing? Spoil yourself?
2. How did Deborah and Barak celebrate?
3. What does this tell you about them?
4. If you were assured of victory, where would you like God to give you victory in your life?

Getting Together

1. Pray for America to awaken to the need for God.
2. Pray audibly for one another's needs, realizing that this is part of being in fellowship with God and one another.