

Major Event: SETTLEMENT

Lesson 2: Deborah and Barak

Scriptures: Judges Chapters 4 and 5

Central text: Judges 4:4-7

4 Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel at that time. 5 She used to sit under the palm tree of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the sons of Israel came up to her for judgment. 6 Now she sent and summoned Barak the son of Abinoam from Kedesh-naphtali, and said to him, "Behold, the LORD, the God of Israel, has commanded, 'Go and march to Mount Tabor, and take with you ten thousand men from the sons of Naphtali and from the sons of Zebulun. 7 I will draw out to you Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his many troops to the river Kishon, and **I will give him into your hand.**'"

Suggested Subjects for Teacher to Cover:

- The fourth time the children of Israel "did evil in the sight of the Lord," God allowed them to suffer again. Jabin's oppressive control caused them to cry out to God for deliverance, and in spite of their great and repeated failures, the Lord graciously brought Deborah and Barak to deliver and lead them once again. (Judges 4:4-10).
- Deborah called for Barak to come to tell him what God had revealed and His promise to deliver, but Barak was unwilling to do anything without Deborah. God said that He would bring Sisera, the army commander of the Canaanite king, to the people in order that he could be judged. (Judges 4:11-24)
- Even though Sisera had great forces and mighty chariots, God made the battle go badly for him, so he ran away and stopped at the home of Jael where he was offered refuge, comfort, and refreshment. Sisera quickly fell asleep and Jael pounded a tent nail through his temple and killed him.
- Deborah and Barak led them in a great song of praise to the Lord, Judges Chapter 5. The Praising of God – Judges 5:2-3; Jehovah - The Commander in Chief – Judges 5:4-5; The Response of the Tribes – Judges 5:12-18; The Conclusion – Judges 5:31a

Suggested Attributes for Teacher to Cover:

1. Of God: Righteousness, Justice, Holiness, Veracity
2. Of Man: Total Dependence on God, Lack of Faithfulness

Suggested Reading for Parents and Child at Home: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 God's promise of Life if you walk by his commandments and a curse if you refuse. Psalm 9:10.

Notes: Even though the people now lived in the land, they still had not completely taken control of the territory (Judges 1). Once again, they did evil in the sight of the Lord by serving Baal, and suffered as a result by having to serve their ungodly oppressors (Judges 3:5-8,12-14). God graciously then chose judges to deliver and lead them; Othniel, Ehud, and Shamgar were the first judges.