



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM WITH UNDERSTANDING”

Of Issachar, those who had understanding of the times, to
know what Israel ought to do... 1 Chronicles 12:32

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TEXT: JUDGES 4:1-10

TITLE: WOMEN OF VIRTUE: EXERCISING FAITH AND COURAGE

INTRODUCTION

- A. Why was Barak adamant that he would not do what God called him to do unless Deborah went with him? _____
- B. Our mothers, and grandmothers have always had to step up, step in and sometimes step over some men because some men were inadequate men _____
- C. Women of Virtue: The word ‘virtuous’ is used 4 times in the Old Testament to reference a gracious woman _____

DEBORAH

- A. Deborah was a Prophetess - One who was consulted in order to bring a word from the Lord _____
- B. Deborah was a Judge _____
 1. To judge, to govern and also encompasses all the facets and functions of government: executive, legislative and judicial
 2. **Judges 2:18,** ¹⁸ *And when the Lord raised up judges for them, the Lord was with the judge and delivered them out of the hand of their enemies all the days of the judge; for the Lord was moved to pity by their groaning because of those who oppressed them and harassed them.*
- C. Deborah was a wife to Lapidoth _____
- D. Deborah sat under a palm tree bearing her name administering judgement to the children of Israel _____
- E. Deborah was a woman – doing what was traditionally considered a “man’s job” (prophetess and judge) in a “man’s world” (male dominated society) _____
 1. Deborah embraced who she was with faith and courage
 2. Deborah excelled (Deborah judged under a tree named after her)
- F. She gave a prophetic word to Barak _____
- G. Woman of Valor: Who are you? What do you have? Into whom are you to pour it? _____

BARAK

- A. Barak heard the prophetic word from Deborah: _____
 1. Go, and take 10,000 men to Mount Tabor
 2. I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin’s army, to meet you
 3. I will deliver him into your hand
- B. Barak did not act on the prophetic word from Deborah _____
 1. “If you will go with me, then I will go; but if you will not go with me, I will not go!”
 2. Why was Barak adamant that he would not do what God called him to do unless Deborah went with him?
 3. Barak knew, honored and respected Deborah more than he did God
- C. Woman of Valor: some will know, honor and respect you more than God _____

OUTCOME

- A. Deborah’s response: _____
 1. I will go with you; nevertheless, the path you are taking will not result in you receiving honor
 2. The LORD will deliver Sisera into the hand of a woman
 3. Deborah went with him
- B. You may not like it and you may not agree with it, however, you do it with faith and courage because you are a woman of virtue _____