

Why you? – Judges 1-5 Deborah

We don't know much about Deborah. But what we do know is that she was wise and discerning, capable and able to lead. She stepped into and stepped up to what God called her to do in using her talents, skills and gifts. Because of this she is remembered in Judges as the only female Judge. During her period of influence she was able to build the right team around her to deliver a mighty victory and all of this is seen in chapter 4+5 of Judges.

How will you respond?

1. What position do the Israelites find themselves at the beginning of chapter 4? (vrs 1-3)
2. Who was Deborah, what skills did she have, what type of woman does she appear to be? (vrs4-5)
3. What is Deborah's Call? (ch4:6+7, ch5:2-12)
4. How do people react to God's call throughout these chapters? (ch4+5) Why do you think they responded as they did?

Reaction

Why?

- Barak (ch4:8, ch5:15)
- Ephraim (ch5:13-23)
- Benjamin
- Machir
- Zebulun
- Issachar
- Reuben
- Gilead
- Dan
- Naphati
- Asher
- Kings of Canaan
- Meroz

5. Why does Barak ask Deborah to go with him? (ch4:8)

6. Why does Deborah say what she says in Ch4:9?

7. In one sentence....
 - What happens at the battle? (ch4:10-16)
 - What happens to the enemy King Sisera? (ch4:17-22, ch5:24-27)
 - What is the final outcome? (ch4:23,24, ch5:31)

To think about...

- I. There is a call over each of our lives. God calls us to action and to serve him. How do we recognise God's call?

- II. Ch5:17. Dan's calling or purpose was to be a naval merchant. A new call comes into his life, and he does not respond, to his shame.

Read this person's testimony:

Edward leaves school with no qualifications but a strong call to youth ministry. He finds a job and serves in various youth pastor posts for 30yrs. After 30yrs service, circumstances change and he finds himself jobless with a mortgage and no qualifications. At the age of 46, he gets himself a job in McDonalds to pay the bills.

What is Edward's calling now?

Is Edward still a Youth Pastor?

- Often we have our main calling, but another important call comes are way out of nowhere, like Deborah being asked to go with Barak or Dan being called to war. Go around the group and give an example of where you have had such an experience.