



Looking at some of the heroes from Hebrews 11.

BARAK

One day [Deborah] sent for Barak... She said to him, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: Call out 10,000 warriors from the tribes of Naphtali and Zebulun at Mount Tabor. And I will call out Sisera, commander of Jabin's army, along with his chariots and warriors, to the Kishon River. There I will give you victory over him."

Judges 4:6-7

BIBLE READING PLAN:

Read Judges 5: 3-9

- What are the *key phrases* that stand out to you in this passage?

Read Judges 4:1-3

- What is the mistake the Israelites keep making?
- Why do you think the Israelites keep repeating this mistake?
- Can you identify with this pattern in your own life? In what ways?

Read Judges 4: 4-9

- Why do you think Barak responded in the way he did (v8)?
- Did Deborah let Barak "off the hook" by agreeing to go? Was this the right thing to do?
- Have you been faced with a clear direction from God that you didn't want to do? What was the result?

Read Judges 4: 14-17

- Why was the timing of the battle important (compare with Judges 5:20-21)?
- Have you seen the importance of timing in your own faith journey? How?

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS:

If you have received a word from the Lord (directly or through someone else) ask these three questions:

- Is this word for me or for someone else?
- Is the word for now or later?
- Do I need to pursue the word or prepare for it?

PERSONAL DEVOTION PLAN:

Barak told her, "If you go with me I will go; but if you don't go with me, I won't go."

Judges 4: 8

Consider your own journey of faith. Have there been times when you have bargained with God or others before stepping out in faith? Was this a good thing or not?

Then Deborah said to Barak, "Go! This is the day the Lord has given Sisera into your hands. Has not the Lord gone ahead of you?"

Judges 4: 14a

Do you feel that the Lord has gone ahead of you in your own faith journey? Are you ready to step into what God has asked you? What more do you need from God, if anything?

Connect with your "buddy" for support and accountability.

- Together, discuss what partnership looks like in your faith journey.
- What is the response of faith you feel God is asking you to make this week?
- Who do you need to support you in your next step of faith?

PRAYER SUGGESTION:

As you pray, ask God to show you those people who can walk with you to take the next steps of faith. Pray for people who provide encouragement, comfort, safety and godly wisdom.

Ask for strength and help to take steps of faith, maybe even ***bold*** steps of faith!

Pray for each other and speak God's blessing over each other. Suggest using scripture:

- Jude 1: 20-22
- 2 Corinthians 5: 6-8
- 2 Timothy 1: 6-8