

## June 7, 2020 PreK

**Bible Passage:** Deborah and Barak/ Judges 4–5

**Story Point:** God used Deborah and Barak to rescue His people.

**Key Passage/Memory Verse:** “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us.” 1 John 1:9a

**Big Picture Question:** What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

**Christ Connection:** *Everything God does is for His glory and our good. (Psalm 115:3; Romans 8:28) God used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to help the people of Israel win battles against Canaan. God also uses people to help us and teach us about Jesus. God sent His Son, Jesus, to do what is very good for us: to save us from sin.*

### STAY CONNECTED WITH ALL THINGS EMERGENCE!

If you haven't already, please sign up for **Emergence Connect**, this is the way to stay connected with all things Emergence including kids resources! You can sign up here: <https://emergencenj.org/login>

If you had an account on Realm and are not yet on Emergence Connect, take a look at your inbox for an activation email. If you have any questions on your Emergence Connect account, please reach out [sara.vandyke@emergencenj.org](mailto:sara.vandyke@emergencenj.org)

### FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM: [emergencenj\\_kids](#)

Get encouragement, updates, lesson tips, activities and more!

### **\* BIBLE STUDY TIPS FOR PARENTS:**

The time of the judges continued after the death of Ehud. The Israelites fell into a continuous cycle of sin, bondage, deliverance, and peace. Every judge was imperfect, yet God worked through the judges. At the time when the Israelites were oppressed by the king of Canaan, Deborah was the judge of Israel. Deborah sent for Barak and encouraged him to take up an army and fight the army of Canaan and its leader, Sisera.

Deborah reminded Barak that God would hand Sisera and his troops over to him. (Judg. 4:6-7) Barak agreed to go, but only if Deborah went with him. Deborah went, but she informed Barak that he would get no glory for the battle.

When Barak went down from Mount Tabor with 10,000 men, “The Lord threw Sisera ... and all his army into a panic before Barak's assault” (Judg. 4:15). Everyone in the army died, but Sisera escaped on foot.

Sisera fled to the tent of Jael, who invited him inside and gave him a drink. While Sisera slept, Jael drove a tent peg through his temple and he died.

Judges 5 records a victory song Deborah and Barak sang on that day, praising God for defeating the Canaanites. The land had rest for 40 years.

The Israelites' sin had resulted in 20 years of defeat. God fought for the Israelites and used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to accomplish the Israelites' victory over Canaan. As you teach preschoolers this week, highlight the actions of Deborah and Barak, who willingly served God and used their gifts for His glory.

Use the Christ Connection to emphasize that God uses people and events to save us not only from our enemies, but to bring about our ultimate good: salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ.

### **\* BIBLE STORY:**

Turn to Judges 4-5 with the help of your preschooler.

**Say** • No other book is like the Bible. The Bible is God's Word. Everything we read in the Bible is true. Today's Bible story comes from the Book of Judges in the Old Testament.

Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

***Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.***

#### **Deborah and Barak: Judges 4–5**

**When the judge of Israel died, the Israelites forgot about God again.** This time, **God allowed the king of Canaan to overtake Israel.** The king was cruel to the people. **The Israelites** remembered how good life was when they loved and obeyed God. They **cried out to God, "Save us!"**

At this time, **Deborah was the judge over Israel.** **One day,** Deborah sent a message to a man named Barak (BAY rak). "Come here, Barak," she said. **Barak came to Deborah, and Deborah said,** "This is what God wants you to do: **Gather an army of men.** Lead them to Mount Tabor (TAY bawr). **God will help you win the battle against the army of Canaan and their leader, Sisera** (SIS uh ruh)."

Barak said to Deborah, "I will go if you will come with me."

"I'll go with you," Deborah said, "but you will not get the honor when Sisera is defeated." So **Deborah, Barak, and all the men in the army went to Mount Tabor. Sisera took his chariots and army toward the river to fight.**

"Go, Barak!" **Deborah said. "God will help you beat Sisera today."** **Barak and his men moved down the mountain toward Sisera and his army.**

**The Lord made Sisera and his army very confused. Sisera ran away. Barak and his men defeated Sisera's army, but Sisera escaped.**

**Sisera ran to the tent of Jael** (JAY uhl). Jael said, "Come in! Don't be afraid." Jael gave Sisera something to drink and covered him with a rug. "If a man comes looking for me," Sisera said, "tell him I'm not here." Sisera was so tired that he fell into a deep sleep. **While Sisera was sleeping, Jael killed him.**

The Lord gave His people victory over their enemies! **Deborah and Barak sang a victory song. They praised God for helping them beat the people of Canaan. The land was peaceful for many more years.**

***Christ Connection: Everything God does is for His glory and our good. (Psalm 115:3; Romans 8:28) God used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to help the people of Israel win battles against Canaan. God also uses people to help us and teach us about Jesus. God sent His Son, Jesus, to do what is very good for us: to save us from sin.***

**SAY** • Everything God does is for His glory and our good, so when God's people forgot about God again, God let the king of Canaan overtake them. The Israelites cried out to God, "Save us!" Then **God used Deborah and Barak to rescue His people.** God also uses people to help us and teach us about Jesus. God sent His Son, Jesus to do what is very good for us: to save us from sin.

### **KEY PASSAGE**

**Key Passage:** "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us." 1 John 1:9a

**SAY** • When the Israelites confessed their sin, God forgave them and helped them win over the people who were being cruel to them. God is also faithful to care for us and to forgive our sin when we trust in Jesus.

### **\* PRAYER**

### **\* ACTIVITY:**

#### **ACTIVITY PAGE & COLORING PAGE:**

Guide preschoolers to draw a line connecting the item to the person who needs it.

**Say** • God wants us to help others. When we bring a bandage to a friend who fell off his bike or share our umbrella with a friend when it's raining, we are being helpers. In our Bible story today, we will hear about some people God used to help the people of Israel win battles against their enemies.

### **MAKE A THANK-YOU CARD**

Encourage children to name people who help them and tell them about Jesus such as parents, siblings, friends, teachers at church, a neighbor, etc. Invite children to fold a sheet of construction paper in half and make a card for one of the people they named. Provide markers or crayons for the children to decorate their cards.

**Say** • The people we named help you learn the stories in the Bible and that God loves you. You can say “thank you” by giving one of them the card you made. **God used Deborah and Barak to rescue His people.** God also uses people to help us and teach us about Jesus. God sent His Son, Jesus, to do what is very good for us: to save us from sin.

### **DRIVE A CHARIOT**

Remove the top and one side of a large box to create a chariot. Draw spokes on large paper plates and glue them to two sides to serve as wheels. Allow preschooler to pretend to drive the chariot. You may also provide pieces of shiny wrapping paper or aluminum foil for preschoolers to glue to the chariot.

**Say** • The army from Canaan was a strong army. Sisera, their leader, probably drove a fast, beautiful chariot. The Israelites may have been afraid because they didn’t have a strong army with chariots and horses to pull them, but **God used Deborah and Barak to rescue His people.** If we confess our sins, God is faithful and righteous to forgive us. Everything God does is for His glory and our good. Because the Israelites repented and turned from their sins, God helped them defeat the army.

### **REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

- Who was the judge over Israel in this Bible story? (*Deborah*)
- Who helped Deborah, Barak, and all the men in the army? (*God did. He confused Sisera and his army.*)
- Who killed Sisera while he slept? (*Jael*)
- What did Deborah and Barak do afterward? (*They sang a victory song and praised God.*)
- ***What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.***