

Ice Breaker (in groups of 2 or 3 for larger groups)

Share a positive thing that happened for you this last week.

Talk About it!

1. Read **Judges 4:10-16**

a. What is the correlation between Batak and Deborah's actions and God's action? How have you experienced or seen this dynamic in your own life?

2. Read **Judges 4:11** again and **Judges 4:17-20**

a. As you heard about Heber the Kennite, how have you experienced or observed believers compromising and trying to live in both worlds? What do you think is going through the mind of Jael at this point?

3. Read **Judges 4:19-24**

a. What is your impression of Jael and what do you think she might have been thinking?

4. Have you ever been thrust into service or responsibility in an unexpected way or at an unexpected time? How did you respond?

5. Read **Psalms 101:4-5**

a. As Jael said 'no!' to the oppressions of Sisera and Jabin, is there a way God is calling you to say 'no!' to something in your life -- and to give it the 'tent-peg treatment'???

Scripture Reference

JUDGES 4:10-24 NLT (QUESTIONS 1-3)

10 At Kedesh, Barak called together the tribes of Zebulun and Naphtali, and 10,000 warriors went up with him. Deborah also went with him.

11 Now Heber the Kenite, a descendant of Moses' brother-in-law Hobab, had moved away from the other members of his tribe and pitched his tent by the oak of Zaananim near Kedesh.

12 When Sisera was told that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor, 13 he called for all 900 of his iron chariots and all of his warriors, and they marched from Harosheth-haggoyim to the Kishon River.

14 Then Deborah said to Barak, "Get ready! This is the day the Lord will give you victory over Sisera, for the Lord is marching ahead of you." So Barak led his 10,000 warriors down the slopes of Mount Tabor into battle. 15 When Barak attacked, the Lord threw Sisera and all his chariots and warriors into a panic. Sisera leaped down from his chariot and escaped on foot. 16 Then Barak chased the chariots and the enemy army all the way to Harosheth-haggoyim, killing all of Sisera's warriors. Not a single one was left alive.

17 Meanwhile, Sisera ran to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, because Heber's family was on friendly terms with King Jabin of Hazor. 18 Jael went out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Come into my tent, sir. Come in. Don't be afraid." So he went into her tent, and she covered him with a blanket.

19 "Please give me some water," he said. "I'm thirsty." So she gave him some milk from a leather bag and covered him again. 20 "Stand at the door of the tent," he told her. "If anybody comes and asks you if there is anyone here, say no."

21 But when Sisera fell asleep from exhaustion, Jael quietly crept up to him with a hammer and tent peg in her hand. Then she drove the tent peg through his temple and into the ground, and so he died.

22 When Barak came looking for Sisera, Jael went out to meet him. She said, "Come, and I will show you the man you are looking for." So he followed her into the tent and found Sisera lying there dead, with the tent peg through his temple. 23 So on that day Israel saw God defeat Jabin, the Canaanite king. 24 And from that time on Israel became stronger and stronger against King Jabin until they finally destroyed him.

PSALM 101:4-5 NLT (QUESTION 5)

4 I will reject perverse ideas and stay away from every evil. 5 I will not tolerate people who slander their neighbors. I will not endure conceit and pride.