



Hidden But Still Significant

FAITHFUL LIVING can have a Big Impact.

Judges 4:1-15 (NIV) Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, now that Ehud was dead. 2 So the Lord sold them into the hands of Jabin king of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor. Sisera, the commander of his army, was based in Harosheth Haggoyim. 3 Because he had nine hundred chariots fitted with iron and had cruelly oppressed the Israelites for twenty years, they cried to the Lord for help. 4 Now Deborah, a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth, was leading^{1a} Israel at that time. 5 She held court under the Palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim, and the Israelites went up to her to have their disputes decided. 6 She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead them up to Mount Tabor.' 7 I will lead Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands." 8 Barak said to her, "If you go with me, I will go; but if you don't go with me, I won't go." 9 "Certainly I will go with you," said Deborah. "But because of the course you are taking, the honor will not be yours, for the LORD will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman." So Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh. 10 There Barak summoned Zebulun and Naphtali, and ten thousand men went up under his command. Deborah also went up with him. 11 Now Heber the Kenite had left the other Kenites, the descendants of Hobab, Moses' brother-in-law,^{1b} and pitched his tent by the great tree in Zaanannim near Kedesh. 12 When they told Sisera that Barak son of Abinoam had gone up to Mount Tabor, 13 Sisera summoned from Harosheth Haggoyim to the Kishon River all his men and his nine hundred chariots fitted with iron. 14 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?" So Barak went down Mount Tabor, with ten thousand men following him. 15 At Barak's advance, the LORD routed Sisera and all his chariots and army by the sword, and Sisera got down from his chariot and fled on foot.

1. FOCUS on God first.

2. COURAGE to do the hard things.

"We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard." – John F. Kennedy

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV) Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; 6 in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

3. Don't worry about who has the SPOTLIGHT.

Philippians 2:3 (NIV) Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Additional Notes:

scriptures that relate - hidden figures from the Bible

Monday: Eliezer - Genesis 15:2-3	Wed.: Bezalel - Exodus 31:1-6	Friday: Jehosheba - 2 Kings 11
Tuesday: Hur - Exodus 17:12	Thurs.: Barzillai - 2 Sam. 17:27-29	Saturday: Meshach - Daniel 1

small groups—talk it over

1. What lessons can we learn from the lives of Deborah and the women from Hidden Figures?
2. The Bible provides numerous examples of people who were not in the limelight, but whose lives were "hidden." What are some characteristics they all have in common?
3. Too often, when we feel we are not living in the spotlight, we focus too much on those we think are. What are some of the ways we can change our focus?

pastor nathan's prayer requests

Monday: Pray for the children who are returning to school this month.

Tuesday: Continue to pray for the families who lost everything in the Westbury Apartment fire.

Wednesday: Pray for our discipleship classes and small groups.

Thursday: Pray for our Worship Arts Ministry as we plan to deliver God's Word through art.

Friday: Pray for the youth and children in our church to be an impact to those around them.

Saturday: Pray for our weekend services and those attending.