



The Harness Devotional

June 15 - June 20

Verses: Judges 4:9, 17-22; 5:24-27.

Judges 4:9 - "Very well," Deborah said, "I will go with you. But because of the way you are going about this, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will hand Sisera over to a woman." So Deborah went with Barak to Kedesh (NIV)

Judges 4:17-22 - Sisera, however, fled on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, because there were friendly relations between Jabin king of Hazor and the clan of Heber the Kenite. Jael went out to meet Sisera and said to him, "Come, my lord, come right in. Don't be afraid." So he entered her tent, and she put a covering over him. "I'm thirsty," he said. "Please give me some water." She opened a skin of milk, gave him a drink, and covered him up. "Stand in the doorway of the tent," he told her. "If someone comes by and asks you, 'Is anyone here?' say 'No.'" But Jael, Heber's wife, picked up a tent peg and a hammer and went quietly to him while he lay fast asleep, exhausted. She drove the peg through his temple into the ground, and he died. Barak came by in pursuit of Sisera, and Jael went out to meet him. "Come," she said, "I will show you the man you're looking for." So he went in with her, and there lay Sisera with the tent peg through his temple — dead. (NIV)

See also Judges 5:24-27.

Worship Song for the Week

["Victory is the Lord's" by Yolanda Adams.](#)

This song captures the theme of the Song of Deborah—celebrating that the battle belongs to God, even when He uses unconventional hands to win it.

Monday - Day 1: The Prophecy of the "Hand"

Focus: "Deborah said... 'The Lord will deliver Sisera into the hands of a woman.'" (Judges 4:9) God often bypasses the "expected" heroes to show His power. Barak wanted the glory of the battlefield, but God had already designated a quiet tent in the valley as the place of victory.

Opening Prayer: Lord, help me to be available. Even if I don't feel like a "warrior," I thank You that You use the hands of the willing to accomplish Your greatest works.

Reflection: Am I waiting for a "big platform" to serve God, or am I ready to be the "woman/man" He uses in a hidden, ordinary place?

Tuesday - Day 2: The Neutral Tent

Focus: "Now Heber the Kenite... had pitched his tent near Kedesh... there was an alliance between Jabin, king of Hazor, and the family of Heber." (Judges 4:11, 17) Jael lived in a "neutral" space, caught between her family's alliances and God's people. Sometimes, God

places us in "middle ground" specifically so we can take a stand for Him.

Opening Prayer: Father, give me clarity in my alliances. When the world demands my neutrality, give me the courage to choose Your side and Your people.

Reflection: Is there a situation where I've been "neutral" for too long? How can I clearly align myself with God's purposes today?

Wednesday - Day 3: Disarming with Kindness

Focus: "Jael went out to meet Sisera... 'Come, my lord, come right in. Don't be afraid...' He asked for water, she gave him milk." (Judges 4:18, 5:25) Jael used what she had—hospitality—to disarm the enemy. She didn't have a sword, but she had a bowl of milk and a warm blanket.

Opening Prayer: Lord, teach me to use my "everyday tools" for Your glory. Help me to be wise as a serpent and innocent as a dove as I navigate the challenges before me.

Reflection: What "ordinary" tools or skills do I have in my "tent" right now that God might want to use for a spiritual breakthrough?

Thursday - Day 4: The Courage of the Tent Peg

Focus: "But Jael... picked up a tent peg and a hammer and went quietly to him while he lay fast asleep... she drove the peg through his temple." (Judges 4:21) Jael didn't wait for a soldier to do the job. She saw the opportunity to end the oppression of Israel, and she took it, using the very tool she used every day to secure her home.

Opening Prayer: Holy Spirit, give me the strength to "drive the peg." When I see sin or oppression in my own life, give me the

decisiveness to end it quickly and completely.

Reflection: What "Sisera" (a habit, an attitude, or a fear) has fallen asleep in my life that I need to finally and decisively put to an end?

Friday - Day 5: Most Blessed of Women

Focus: "Most blessed of women be Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite, most blessed of tent-dwelling women." (Judges 5:24) In Deborah's victory song, she reserves the highest blessing for Jael. God honors the "tent-dwellers" who step up when the "generals" hesitate.

Opening Prayer: Lord, thank You for seeing the bravery of those who serve in private. I seek Your blessing and Your "well done" above the praise of the world.

Reflection: How does it encourage me to know that God considers a "tent-dweller" like Jael to be among the "most blessed" for her faithfulness?

Saturday - Day 6: The Song of Deliverance

Focus: "So may all your enemies perish, Lord! But may all who love you be like the sun when it rises in its strength." (Judges 5:31) The story of Jael ends with a song of peace that lasted forty years. Her one act of courage secured a generation of rest.

Opening Prayer: Heavenly Father, let my life be a "rising sun" of Your strength. Use my small acts of obedience to bring "forty years of peace" to my family and community.

Reflection: Looking back at Jael's story, what is the one "act of obedience" I feel prompted to take this week to secure peace in my own "territory"?