

Unit 9 • Session 2 Deborah and Barak

BIBLE PASSAGE: Judges 4–5

STORY POINT: God used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to rescue His people.

KEY PASSAGE: 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION: What is repentance? Repentance is turning away from sin and turning to Jesus.

ACTIVITY: Dizzy walk

Clear the room of obstacles. Guide the kids to spin in a circle 10 times and then try to walk in a straight line. Discuss how difficult it is to walk straight while dizzy. Hold a competition to see who can walk the furthest without falling over after spinning 10 times. For added dizziness, you may use a bat and ask the kids to place one end on the ground and bend forward so their forehead touches the other end while they spin.

SAY • Spinning in circles makes us dizzy, and that means it is difficult to walk straight. It's kind of like being very confused! You can hardly tell which way is up. In our story today, God threw Sisera's army into confusion. They were fleeing and disorganized in the face of Deborah and Barak's attack. **God used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to rescue His people.** Although they did the fighting, God gave the victory.

BIBLE STORY DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why did God allow Canaan to overtake the Israelites? *(The people did what was evil in God's sight, so He allowed their enemies to conquer them; Judg. 4:1-2)*
2. Why didn't Barak get the honor for defeating Sisera and the army of Caanan? *(He said he would only go where God told him to go if Deborah went with him, Judg. 4:8-9)*
3. Who ended up getting the honor for killing Sisera? *(Jael, a woman who was not an Israelite; Judg. 4:22)*
4. Why did God keep rescuing His people if they kept turning away from Him? *Guide kids to see that God is faithful and merciful. He loves even those who sin against Him. He still planned to use the Israelites to send Jesus, so He showed His love to them.*
5. Whom does God use in His plans? *Guide kids to discuss the fact that God can—and does—use all kinds of people. In the story today, God used a man and two women. He used Israelites and non-Israelites. Remind kids that God is all-powerful and can use anyone in His plans. Help them see that when we have faith, God will do great things in us and through us.*
6. Why does God use people in His plans? *Guide kids to see that God doesn't need our help to do anything, but He lovingly includes us in His good work. We are blessed by the chance to participate in His plan to rescue sinners and glorify Him. By using people, He shows His power to do amazing things through ordinary people.*

QUESTIONS FROM KIDS VIDEO:

Prompt kids to think about how we can help people who are in need. Guide them to discuss the ways God has gifted them to live on mission.