



When Leaders Lead—Story of Deborah & Barak Judges 4:1-16

Dr. Bill Wilks
June 22, 2025

Leadership matters, and spiritual leadership matters monumentally. Families, churches, communities, and nations need strong spiritual leaders. When leaders lead with godly conviction and courage, we can see great movements of God. But failed leadership brings darkness.

Joshua led the Israelites into the Promised Land with conviction and courage. But "there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that He had done" (Judg. 2:10). They failed to drive the Canaanites out of the land and rebellion prevailed (21:25).

In our text, the Israelites perpetual cycle of sin led them to cry out for help, and God raised up a judge named Deborah to lead them.

Main Thought...

➔ When spiritual leaders _____ and the people follow, we can see great movements of God.

1. Spiritual leaders _____ from unlikely sources (v. 1-4).

Judg. 6:12, 15; 1 Sam. 16:6-7; 1 Cor. 1:26

2. Spiritual leaders _____ the gifts they have (v. 5).

Ex. 4:2-3; 1 Sam. 17:40; 1 Pt. 4:10

3. Spiritual leaders _____ courage in others (v. 6-10).

Esth. 4:14; 2 Tim. 1:7-8

4. Spiritual leaders _____ in God's great providence (v. 7-16).

Judg. 1:19; 5:2, 4-5, 20-21

Final Thoughts...

➔ Are you _____ and in need of God's help?

➔ Will you _____ to Him and cry out for His deliverance?