



## ***STUDY 1***

Bible Passage Judges ch.4&5

Background – The idea of this study series is to consider God’s plan “blueprint”, as we look at various Old Testament characters. The focus of this first study is Deborah.

Introduction – To begin let’s consider two commonly used phrases, firstly – “Why Me?” We say and think it all the time and it can express a great many different feelings, guilt, injustice, surprise, frustration, inadequacy. There are many amazing – “Why Me’s” in scripture as God calls and uses all kinds of surprising people to play their part in His Divine plans. You might like to think of your favourite, “Why Me” at this point in our study.

The other somewhat provocative saying is – “The best place for a woman is.....”, you fill in the blanks, if you are brave enough. The right and Biblical answer is of course – “The best place for a woman is doing the will of Almighty God!” Debora a wife, a prophet, a military and spiritual leader, a bold believer, called by God in a difficult time in the history of the people of God to inspire them to victory and safety over their aggressive neighbours. A surprise and a woman too! She is not the only surprising God-led heroine within our chapters, I will give you the clues milk and a tent peg and let you work out the rest for yourself!

Having read the chapters for yourself some questions to consider:

- 1) What other women in the Bible impress and amaze you and why?
- 2) Why is fear such a factor in becoming and being a Christian? Is there anything within these chapters that might help us overcome fear?

3) Deborah gives us a wonderful example of the ministry of accompaniment, prayerfully consider if you might need, or, might be able this ministry to another?

Conclusion - There's a wonderful movie called Hacksaw Ridge which has many parallels with Deborah in our Bible passage. If you do watch this film about the exploits of Desmond Doss have a cushion to hide behind - at times you will need it and a box of tissues, which you will also need before the movie ends!

We look forward to next week and another piece of the Divine Blueprint falling into place.

God Bless,

Mark