Bible Stories for Young Children

part of a curriculum prepared for young children

THE PEOPLE FORGOT THEIR PROMISE / DEBORAH AND BARAK

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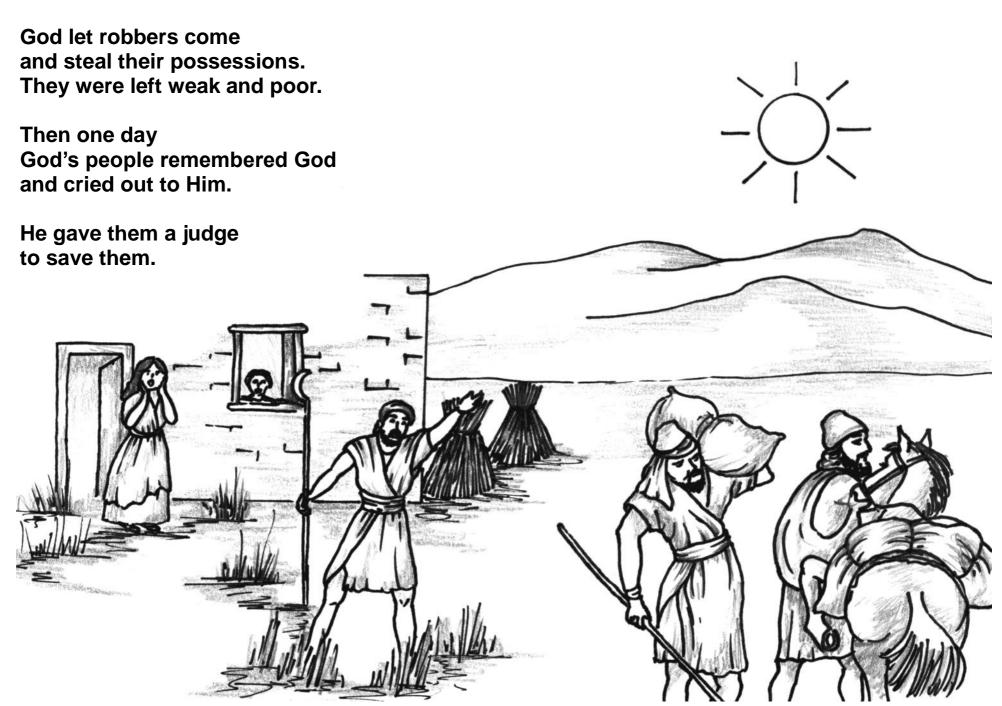
Illustrated by Muriel Auty

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JUDGES 2:7 - 3:11; 4:1 - 5:3 Judges 5:4-31 THE PEOPLE FORGOT THEIR PROMISE / **DEBORAH AND BARAK** File no. 44 God's people had told Joshua that they would worship the Lord. But after Joshua died, they forgot their promise. They saw other people worshipping a god called Baal and they started worshipping him too. They also made God angry by doing everything He told them not to do.





Again, God's people forgot they belonged to God and that He cared for them. They began worshipping Baal.

This time God let the king of Canaan defeat His people.
Their leader, Sisera, was cruel to them.

Then twenty years later God's people remembered God and cried out to Him.

They went and talked to Deborah, their prophetess and judge.
She was sitting under the palm tree.

God showed Deborah what to do.

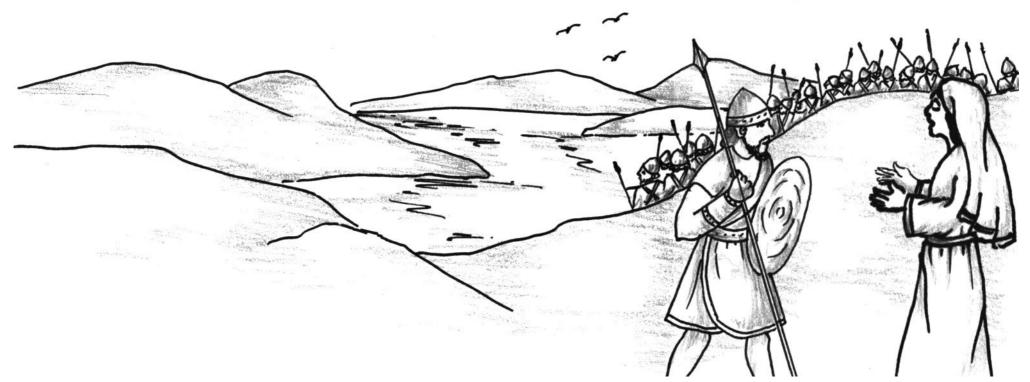


Deborah said to Barak,
'The Lord says to you,
"Get an army ready for battle at Mount Tabor.
He is going to bring Sisera, your enemy, to you.
He is going to help you defeat him."

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Barak was ready to obey God, but he would not go unless Deborah went with him.

So Barak took his soldiers and waited at Mount Tabor.



Sisera heard that Barak was at Mount Tabor with his army. He came with his soldiers and chariots.

Deborah saw them coming and said, 'Barak! Today is the day! The Lord will help you defeat Sisera.'

As the fighting began, God helped His people by making the earth shake, and the ground boggy with rain.

The enemy chariots got stuck and the soldiers panicked.

God helped His people defeat them.



But Sisera jumped out of his chariot and ran away.

He ran and ran as far as he could.

Then he saw a lady called Jael standing by her tent saying, 'Come and rest here.'

Sisera was exhausted. He went into her tent and said, 'Watch the door. Don't let anyone know I'm here.'

He lay down and went to sleep. But while he slept, Jael killed him.



