Watch a video for this lesson at <u>https://youtu.be/Jxwhd</u> <u>b-WdgU</u>

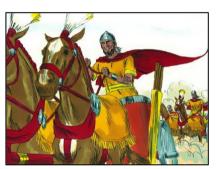


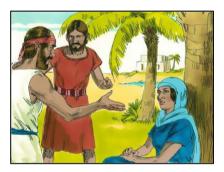
DEBORAH AND BARAK (JUDGES 4 & 5)



The Bible says that Ehud and Shamgar had been judges over Israel. After they died, the Israelites forgot about God. They worshipped gods of the Canaanites.

So, God allowed the king of Canaan to overtake them. The commander of the king's army was named Sisera. He was very powerful and had 900 iron chariots. Sisera was cruel to the Israelites for 20 years. **God's people remembered how good they had it when they loved and obeyed God. They cried out to God, "Save us!"**



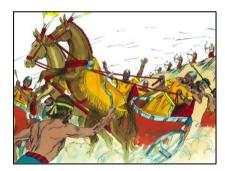


God raised up Deborah as the judge over Israel at this time. She sat under a palm tree. People came to her to help solve their problems.

One day, Deborah called for Barak and said, "God wants you to gather an army of 10,000 men. God will help you defeat Sisera." Barak said to Deborah, "I will go if you will come with me. If you won't come, I'm not going." "I'll go," Deborah said. "But you will receive no honor for the battle. A woman will get the honor."



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"Barak, go! God will help you defeat Sisera today," Deborah said. Barak and his 10,000 men moved down the mountain to fight. The Lord confused Sisera and all of the Canaanite army. Barak chased the chariots and the army. None of them survived. But Sisera had escaped!

Sisera was tired and thirsty. He ran to the tent of Jael. Jael gave Sisera warm milk to drink and covered him with a rug. Sisera was so exhausted that he fell into a deep sleep.





Jael knew that Sisera was an evil man, an enemy of God. While he was asleep, Jael killed him with a hammer and a tent peg. Jael got the honor for killing Sisera.

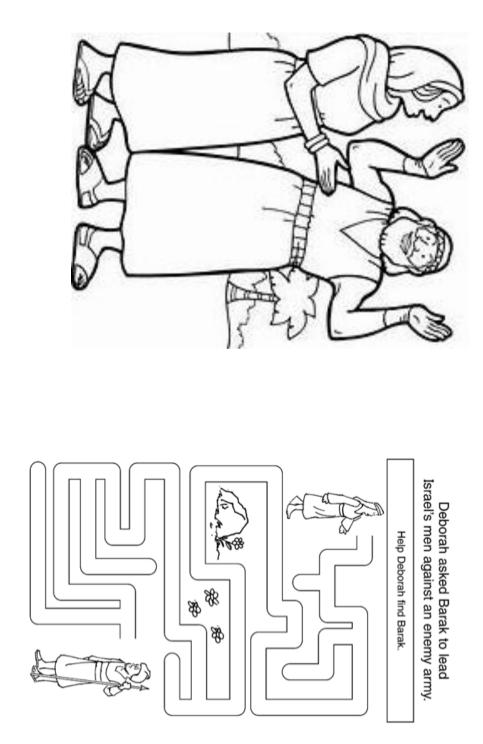
That day, God allowed the Israelites to defeat the Canaanites. The Israelites had won the battle! Deborah and Barak sang a victory song. They praised God for helping them beat the Canaanites. The land was peaceful for 40 more years.



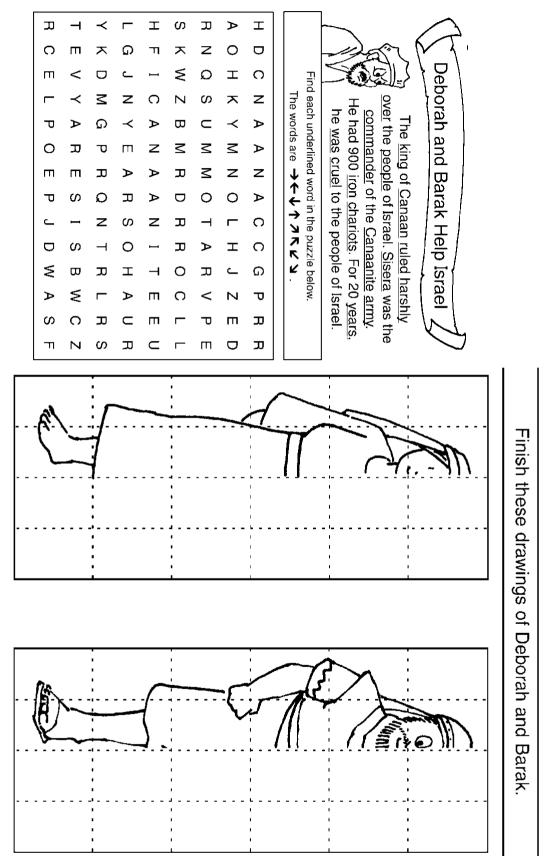
God fought for the Israelites and used Deborah, Barak, and Jael to defeat Canaan. Nothing can stop God – not even 900 iron chariots! When the Israelites turned back to God, He kept saving them from their enemies and giving them peace. Judges helped save the people from their enemies, but the Israelites kept forgetting about God. We are blessed because God sent Jesus, His Son. He will save us forever!

> THINK ABOUT IT! The Israelites kept forgetting about God. What do YOU want to remember about God? Make a list.





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