

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further ***International Bible Lessons***

Judges 4:1-10
Sunday, June 4, 2017
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Some Bible study groups or classes can further discussion by asking some or all of the **Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further** below. Others may want to send the bulletin size *International Bible Lesson* home with their students for further study in the coming week to encourage continuing Bible study. The *Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further* below are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are “hints” a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class so they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week’s Bible class.

Questions for Discussion and Thinking Further

1. Why were the Israelites defeated so many times after the death of Joshua and Caleb?

They did evil in the sight of the LORD. As punishment, God would help their enemies or allow their enemies to defeat them in battle and enslave or oppress them.

2. Why did God raise up judges among the Israelites?

To decide disputes between Israelites, similar to the judges Moses appointed. To defeat the enemies of the Israelites after they called out to God to help them, thus giving them peace until they turned to evil and idolatry once again.

3. Who was the most moral, godly, and spiritually sensitive judge in the Book of Judges?

Deborah, who was also a prophetess.

4. When Barak agreed to do what he was commanded, what condition did he set before he would take action? Why do you think he did so?

He wanted Deborah to go with him. Then, he could learn from her the LORD's commands if they were needed in battle; to encourage his soldiers to fight courageously; to help recruit the 10,000 soldiers that he needed to fulfill God's command to him.

5. In all of the battles that Israel fought in the Book of Judges, what side did God fight on in each battle?

When God needed to punish the Israelites, He fought on the side of their enemies. When God needed to free the Israelites from oppression and slavery, on the side of Israel.

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