



*After the time of Moses and Joshua, Israel fell into a period of chaos where “everyone did as they saw fit” (Judges 21:25). Despite Israel’s sin, God raised up Judges from among the people to lead them from rebellion to freedom, including Samson, Deborah, and Gideon. Join us for seven weeks as we study the judges and learn what to do, and maybe what not to do, as we lead the people around us through our chaos today.*

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### **Week 3 Sermon Guide - June 9, 2024**

This series will help us become better leaders. Today’s message is about leading when the chaos around us seems overwhelming. How does this world’s chaos typically affect you and the way that you lead others?

#### **As leaders go, so go(es) the:**

What personal patterns, habits, thoughts, or attitudes sometimes prevent you from being a more effective leader?

**Read Judges 4:1-7.** Who was Deborah? What do we know about her from this passage?

### **3 Things that Made Deborah So Extraordinary**

#### **1. DEBORAH’S \_\_\_\_\_**

What did God call Deborah to do?

How did Deborah respond? How might her response to God’s call have been costly to her?

Check out these passages about being called:

**2 Tim. 1:9** He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace.

**Rom. 8:28** And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

**1 Pet. 2:9** But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

How has God called you to serve Him? How have you responded so far?

## 2. DEBORAH'S \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Judges 4:8-10.** Where do you see Deborah's candor in this story? How might she have responded to Barak's cowardice if she lacked candor?

**Ephesians 4:15** says we are to "speak the truth in love". Which tends to be more difficult for you: speaking the truth, or speaking it with love? Why?

Why is candor such an important trait for Christians to foster in this day and age?

## 3. DEBORAH'S \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Judges 4:11-24.** Why were Deborah's words and actions here so courageous? Had she lacked courage, how might she have responded under the circumstances?

What happens in a world, nation, city, business, church, or family when leaders lack the courage to lead?

Think of a time when you witnessed a Christian demonstrating real courage. What happened, and what difference did it make?

How do you think God may be calling you to be more courageous, and how will you respond to His call?

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### Summer Events:



#### **Vacation Bible School**

Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us June 24-28 for an energetic week of Bible stories, songs, games, and so much more fun! Learn more and register your children today: [thestory.church/summer](http://thestory.church/summer)



#### **High School Apologetics Camp**

At this camp (July 22-25), Pastor Eric will lead all current and incoming high school students through teachings and discussions based on the toughest questions and the biggest issues these young Christians face. Register: [thestory.church/summer](http://thestory.church/summer)



#### **Middle School Camp & Retreat**

We have two awesome ways for incoming 6th-8th grade students to connect this summer - Christianity 101 Camp (July 22-25) and a Beach Retreat down in Galveston (July 26-28)! Learn more & register: [thestory.church/summer](http://thestory.church/summer)