

She Saved My Life!

Heroines in the Bible

Heroines to Remember

1. Michal - the Daughter of Saul
2. Abigail - the Wife of Nabal
3. Jehosheba - the Daughter of King Joram
4. Jael - the Wife of Heber

Michal - the Daughter of Saul

The Background Story

1 Sam 17:25 *So the men of Israel said, "Have you seen this man who has come up? Surely he has come up to defy Israel; and it shall be that the man who kills him the king will enrich with great riches, will give him his daughter, and give his father's house exemption from taxes in Israel."*

Saul promised to give Goliath's slayer great riches, his daughter, and a permanent tax exemption for his family.

David defeated Goliath and expected to collect on the King's promises.
Saul became very jealous of David and sought several times to kill him.

1 Sam 18:20-21 *Now Michal, Saul's daughter, loved David. And they told Saul, and the thing pleased him. 21 So Saul said, "I will give her to him, that she may be a snare to him, and that the hand of the Philistines may be against him." Therefore Saul said to David a second time, "You shall be my son-in-law today." NKJV*

After refusing to give David his oldest daughter, Saul agrees to give _____ to David as his wife.

This too was a ploy to get David killed. In place of a traditional dowry, Saul requested David kill one hundred Philistines and bring him the proof. David killed _____ hundred Philistines, and took Michal as his wife.

1 Sam 18:28-30 *Thus Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him; 29 and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. 30 Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed. NKJV*

After marrying Michal, David continued to defeat the Philistines, and all Israel _____ him highly.

1 Sam 19:11-19 *Saul also sent messengers to David's house to watch him and to kill him in the morning. And Michal, David's wife, told him, saying, "If you do not save your life tonight, tomorrow you will be killed." 12 So Michal let David down through a window. And he went and fled and escaped. 13 And Michal took an image and laid it in the bed, put a cover of goats' hair for his head,*

and covered it with clothes. 14 So when Saul sent messengers to take David, she said, "He is sick." 15 Then Saul sent the messengers back to see David, saying, "Bring him up to me in the bed, that I may kill him." 16 And when the messengers had come in, there was the image in the bed, with a cover of goats' hair for his head. 17 Then Saul said to Michal, "Why have you deceived me like this, and sent my enemy away, so that he has escaped?" And Michal answered Saul, "He said to me, 'Let me go! Why should I kill you?'" 18 So David fled and escaped, and went to Samuel at Ramah, and told him all that Saul had done to him. And he and Samuel went and stayed in Naioth.

Michal's love for David motivated her to go against her father's wishes and _____ David's life.

Abigail - the Wife of Nabal

Background

- David is on the run hiding from Saul.
- He has been struggling to provide food for his men. They have already eaten the holy bread from the tabernacle.
- David has spared Saul's life once. Samuel is dead.
- David sends his men to Nabal to ask for food.

1 Sam 25:12-13 *So David's young men turned on their heels and went back; and they came and told him all these words. 13 Then David said to his men, "Every man gird on his sword." So every man girded on his sword, and David also girded on his sword. And about four hundred men went with David, and two hundred stayed with the supplies.* NKJV

When David heard that Nabal refused to give his men food, he took four hundred men with the intention of **killing** all the men in Nabal's household.

In the meantime Abigail heard that Nabal refused David's request so she prepared two hundred loaves of bread, two skins of wine, **five** sheep already dressed, roasted grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs, and sent them to David.

1 Sam 25:26-29 *Now therefore, my lord, as the Lord lives and as your soul lives, since the Lord has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my lord be as Nabal. 27 And now this present which your maidservant has brought to my lord, let it be given to the young men who follow my lord. 28 Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the Lord will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the Lord, and evil is not found in you throughout your days.* NKJV

Abigail makes a _____ case that David should allow God to take care of Nabal.

1 Sam 25:32-35 *Then David said to Abigail: "Blessed is the Lord God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! 33 And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand. 34 For indeed, as the Lord God of Israel lives, who has kept me back from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, surely by morning light no males would have been left to Nabal!" 35 So David received from her hand what she had brought him, and said to her, "Go up in peace to your house. See, I have heeded your voice and respected your person."* NKJV

Abigail saved the lives of every _____ in Nabal's house.

Jehosheba - the Daughter of King Joram

Background

- When Jehoshaphat died Jehoram became king over Judah. He followed the evil ways of the kings of Israel, including killing all his brothers.
- God stirred up his enemies and they fought against Jehoram, killing all of his sons except his youngest, Ahaziah.
- Ahaziah followed the evil ways of his father. He was killed by Jehu while he was destroying the house of Ahab from the face of the earth.

2 Chron 22:10-12 *Now when Athaliah the mother of Ahaziah saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the royal heirs of the house of Judah. 11 But Jehoshabeath, the daughter of the king, took Joash the son of Ahaziah, and stole him away from among the king's sons who were being murdered, and put him and his nurse in a bedroom. So Jehoshabeath, the daughter of King Jehoram, the wife of Jehoiada the priest (for she was the sister of Ahaziah), hid him from Athaliah so that she did not kill him. 12 And he was hidden with them in the house of God for six years, while Athaliah reigned over the land.* NKJV

Jehoshabeath hid Joash from Athaliah when she was murdering all the king's sons.
He was hidden in the house of the high priest for six years.

Jael - the wife of Heber

The Background

God's people were living the cycle of disobedience, punishment, repentance and salvation. After Ehud died the people returned to their evil ways.

Deborah was judging Israel at the time. She called Barak and gave him directions to go and fight Sisera, the commander of the Canaanite army.

Barak said he would only go and fight if Deborah went with him.

The Story

Judg 4:17-18 *However, Sisera had fled away on foot to the tent of Jael, the wife of Heber the Kenite; for there was peace between Jabin king of Hazor and the house of Heber the Kenite. 18 And Jael went out to meet Sisera, and said to him, "Turn aside, my lord, turn aside to me; do not fear." And when he had turned aside with her into the tent, she covered him with a blanket.* NKJV

While Sisera was fleeing from Barak, he met Jael. Jael's family was at _____ with Sisera and his people.

Judg 4:19-22 *Then he said to her, "Please give me a little water to drink, for I am thirsty." So she opened a jug of milk, gave him a drink, and covered him. 20 And he said to her, "Stand at the door*

of the tent, and if any man comes and inquires of you, and says, 'Is there any man here?' you shall say, 'No.'" 21 Then Jael, Heber's wife, took a tent peg and took a hammer in her hand, and went softly to him and drove the peg into his temple, and it went down into the ground; for he was fast asleep and weary. So he died. 22 And then, as Barak pursued Sisera, Jael came out to meet him, and said to him, "Come, I will show you the man whom you seek." And when he went into her tent, there lay Sisera, dead with the peg in his temple. NKJV

Jael gave him milk and covered him with a blanket to get him to fall asleep.

She then killed him by driving a tent peg into his _____.

She became immortalized in the Song of Deborah.

God used Jael to _____ Israel.

Lessons we can learn

Women have always played important roles in God's plan.

When God needs you, you should be ready to respond.