

## God's Promises: A Study in Judges

By Luanna Azzarito

### Introduction

**Read:** Judges 11:32-33; Hebrews 11:32

*"I will never break my covenant with you"* (Judges 2:1)

The Lord does not lie. The Lord does not stutter. He paints the skies and the seas with the sound of His will. His promises are certain, for no plan of His can fail. All His words must come to pass.

The Lord's promises are facts in the making—in the hands of those who conquer through faith.

### Opening Questions:

1. What promises of God do you find hardest to believe when you're afraid?
2. Which is harder for you: trusting God's timing, or trusting that He is using you?

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### Barak – When the Weak Rise

**Read:** Judges 4:4-10, 14-15

*"Has not the Lord gone ahead of you?"* (Judges 4:14)

Sisera, commander of the enemy's army, oppressed Israel for 20 years. The Lord called on Barak—through the prophet Deborah—to lead the charge and deliver His people. Although Barak was fearful and hesitant, he still obeyed.

The Lord does not require courage—He empowers the meek with His mighty hand.

### Reflection Questions:

1. In which ways did God empower Barak?
2. Can obedience still honor God when it is done with trembling hands?
3. Has God ever placed a Deborah in your life to strengthen your faith?

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## **Gideon – When the Least Becomes Great**

**Read:** Judges 7:4-7

*When the weak rise, the Name of the Lord is glorified.*

Israel cried out to the Lord for help when the hand of the Midian was too heavy to bear. The Lord chose Gideon—the least in his family, from the weakest clan—to deliver them.

Furthermore, God reduced Gideon’s army from thousands to just 300 men. When the least becomes a mighty warrior, it magnifies the Name of the Lord.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. Why did God reduce Gideon’s army?
2. Have you ever felt too weak or unequipped for what God asked you to do?
3. What might God be trying to show the world through your weakness?

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## **Jephthah – When the Spirit Comes Anyway**

**Read:** Judges 11:29–33

Jephthah was born under inferior circumstances, cast out by his own brothers, driven from his father’s house. The outcast. The unwanted. Yet when Israel trembled before their enemies, they came crawling back—begging the rejected one to save them.

And the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah.

The Lord does not ask permission from man’s rejection. He pours out His Spirit upon whom He chooses. The discarded become His instruments. The cast-off become His champions.

### **Reflection Questions:**

1. How does the Lord’s choosing of Jephthah reveal His heart toward the rejected?
2. Has the Lord ever used you despite others’ rejection?
3. What does Jephthah’s victory teach us about the Lord’s faithfulness to His covenant?

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## Samson – When Surrender Comes Late

**Read:** Judges 16:28–30

Samson, the Nazirite from birth, set apart for the Lord’s purposes. Yet he squandered his calling through impulsive choices. He played with his anointing like a child with fire. His strength became his pride, his gifts became his chains.

Blinded. Bound. Broken.

But in that final hour—hair growing back, humility growing deeper—he cried out once more: *“Sovereign Lord, remember me. Please, God, strengthen me just once more”* (Judges 16:28).

And the Lord heard. And the Lord answered.

The Lord finishes what He starts. His purposes will not be thwarted by our failures. Even late surrender finds His mercy waiting.

### Reflection Questions:

1. How does the Lord’s response to Samson’s final prayer reveal His heart toward the fallen?
2. Have you ever felt you had wasted your calling? What hope does Samson offer?
3. Why must we remember that only the Lord is holy—and that He completes His work despite us?

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### Conclusion

Throughout the Book of Judges, we see the same pattern repeated: God’s people fall away, face oppression, cry out for help, and God raises up an unlikely deliverer. Each judge was flawed, fearful, or forgotten by the world—yet God used them all.

This is the heart of God’s covenant promise: *“I will never break my covenant with you.”* His faithfulness does not depend on our strength, our past, or our perfection. It rests entirely on His unchanging character.

When we are weak, He is strong. When we are rejected, He accepts us. When we fail, He redeems us. When we surrender—even late—He restores us.

The Lord’s promises are facts in the making, in the hands of those who conquer through faith.

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## **Blessing**

### ***For the Child of God***

Hear, O children of God— The Lord is one and there is no other.

The Lord Himself is my salvation and gave His life as ransom for my soul.

Blessed are you who is called a child of God, for the Lord will never leave you nor forsake you.

Blessed are you who belong to the Savior, Messiah, the Christ— for He will lift you from your sorrow and give you peace.

May the Lord keep you and show you His ways.

May you grow in holiness and walk the path of righteousness.

May you praise the Lord and no other, for the Lord our God alone is holy.

Bless the Name of the Lord.

Amen.

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