

## WHERE'S YOUR MAN CARD?

*Your Story, His Glory*

### **Barak was Timid**

*"I do not have time to tell about . . . Barak." Hebrews 11:32*

Whenever you mention Barak's name, you must add another name with it. It's not just "Barak," it's "Deborah and Barak." Who was Deborah? She's not his wife. Deborah was the only female judge of Israel.

*"She sent for Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali and said to him, "The Lord, the God of Israel, commands you: 'Go, take with you ten thousand men of Naphtali and Zebulun and lead the way to Mount Tabor. I will lure Sisera, the commander of Jabin's army, with his chariots and his troops to the Kishon River and give him into your hands.'" Judges 4:6-7*

On one hand this is very simple. God gave the battle plan to Deborah who gave it to Barak. All he has to do is rally the troops, go into battle, and win the victory. But check out his timid response:

*Barak said to her, "If you go with me, I will go; but if you don't go with me, I won't go." Judges 4:8*

It's a man's job to saddle up and face the enemy.

*"Very well," Deborah said, "I will go with you. But because of the way you are going about this, the honor will not be yours, for the Lord will hand Sisera over to a woman." Judges 4:9*

*"Come. I will show you the man you are looking for." Judges 4:22*

So even though Barak led the troops in battle, Deborah and Jael get the credit. Was Barak a bad guy? No, he was a good guy who was too dependent on women. Give him the credit he deserves. He's listed in Hebrews 11:32 as a man of faith-and he was- but he was timid when he should have been a strong leader.