

# *The Women Who Knew . . .*

An exploration of the Seven Prophetesses in Hebrew History;  
Huldah, Miriam, Deborah, Abigail, Esther, Hannah and Sarah



## *A Seven Week Bible Study for Lent*

### Group Leader's Guide

Curriculum and Project Development by  
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# STUDY MATERIALS

With this Group Leader's Guide

- DVD or Thumb Drive with seven individual sessions consisting of an introduction, scripture reading, and lesson presentation.
- Study guide worksheets, one per session in easy-to-copy format, to guide participants to a deeper understanding of the scripture by integrating group discussion with personal reflection.

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### VIDEO STUDY SESSIONS

- **Session 1 - Huldah: Sin No More** (II Kings 22:14-20)  
Presenter: Jenny Freymoyer, Shoemakersville: Salem
- **Session 2 - Miriam: The Mighty Waters** (Exodus 15:1-21)  
Presenter: Michelle Beissel, Elysburg & Millers Crossroads
- **Session 3 - Deborah: Greatness in the Kingdom** (Judges 4:4-23)  
Presenter: Misty Fuller, Clark's Grove
- **Session 4 - Abigail: Words Win the Day** (I Samuel 25:18-35)  
Presenter: Joong Hyuck Kim, Bethlehem: Korean and Fritz
- **Session 5 - Esther: For Such a Time As This** (Esther 4)  
Presenter: Earl Roberts, Lattimer
- **Session 6 - Hannah: Extravagant Giving** (I Samuel 1: 9b-23a)  
Presenter: Brad Leight, Jim Thorpe: Grace-St Paul
- **Session 7 - Sarah: Is Anything Too Wonderful for the Lord** (Genesis 21:1-8)  
Presenter: Deborah Appler, Moravian Theological Seminary

# OVERVIEW

*The Women Who Knew* is a seven week Lenten Bible Study series, designed to begin the week of Ash Wednesday and conclude in the week following Easter Day. The curriculum has been developed to help Christian disciples grow through the study of the word.

The Babylonian Talmud tells us there were 49 prophets and 7 prophetesses who were active in Israel in biblical times! Our study will feature one of the women each session with an exploration of the primary biblical accounts of their contribution to the Jewish redemption narrative. We will also review encounters/conversations Jesus has with women as recorded in the Gospels. They each knew something of God's will for the future and are celebrated in our Hebrew tradition as stalwart charters of intelligence, creativity, and faithfulness who God used to move salvation history forward.

*The Women Who Knew* is designed to be conducted in a group setting as an "in-class" study experience, but with no "homework" required of participants. Each week of the study will be taught on video by different Elders from the North District of the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference of the United Methodist Church. As group leader, your role will be to facilitate the group sessions using the video presentations and the corresponding worksheets which accompany this Group Leader's Guide. Participants should bring a Bible to each class; the study makes use of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV).

Each of the seven sessions will require a minimum of 60 minutes. You may find, however, that your group prefers a slower pace, or to accommodate larger groups, that scheduling a 90 minute block of time better fits your needs.

## SUGGESTED FORMAT

Gathering of the group

Opening prayer

Brief verbal introduction to the session's topic

Video presentation

Group response and conversation

Divide into smaller groups for worksheet exercises: *Talkback with the Pastor;*

*They Knew Something, Jesus and the Women and Go Deeper*

Reassemble for full group discussion

Announcements

Closing prayer