

The Women Who Knew . . .

Huldah, Miriam, Deborah, Abigail, Esther, Hannah and Sarah

Session 2 - Miriam: The Mighty Waters

Talkback with Pastor Michelle

Exodus 15:1-21

- 1) Miriam entices not simply witnessing the praise of God but actually participation in it! How does Miriam's leadership elicit great worship in this scene? What are the forces - who are the people - which elicit the best expressions of worship in your own experience?

They Knew Something

- 2) Identify the key theological themes within The Song of the Sea (Exodus 15:1-18). Picture in your mind the scene in 15:20-21; what do you see? hear? feel? In your experience, how would you describe the role of music in expressing divine praise? In the case of Miriam, what did she know?

Jesus and the Women

- 3) The symbol of water functions dramatically in John 4:1-30, 39-42. Who in this scene needs a drink? What does it mean for this Samaritan woman to receive *living water* (v. 10), and then to offer it to others (v. 29)? How does this scene speak to our understanding of baptism (vv. 1-2)?

Go Deeper

- 4) Review the less noble behavior of Miriam recalled in Numbers 12:1-16. How was this experience instructive to the nation of Israel? (cf Deuteronomy 24:9) Notice how the people refused to set out on a new march until the ostracized Miriam "*had been brought in again.*" (v 15b). Does this suggest reconciliation? Are some of our best leaders - flawed human beings - sometimes refined and strengthened by their past failings?