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**Next week, May 4, chapter 10—standing Tall, Falling Hard**

**The following week, May 11, chapter 9—Faith of a Foreign Woman**

*The Story Ch.* 8—A Few Good Men and Women

**Big Idea**: The stories of three Judges illustrate how God is able to use flawed servants who turn defeat into victory and disobedience into faithful commitment.

**I. God brings victory through servants who c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and**

**c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ their strengths--Deborah** Judges 4:4-13

A) Deborah was c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by God

--Prophetesses in the Bible: *Exodus 15:20; 2 Kings 22:14; Jeremiah 6:14; Joel 2:28; Luke 2: 36; Acts 21:9; 1 Corinthians 11:5*

B) Deborah called Barak--they c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to lead Israel to victory

*Judges 4: 6-8; Galatians 3:28; Ephesians 2:19-21; 1 Corinthians 12:27*

**II. God can convert servants with no c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ into**

**courageous leaders**—**Gideon** *Judges 6-8*

A) God r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to Israel’s call for help

B) God r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ up a timid man to lead Israel--Gideon

C) Gideon r\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with steps of increasing faith

*2 Timothy 1:7; John 8:36; Galatians 5:1*

**III. God never gives up on servants who are c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,**

**conceited or in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_—Samson** *13-16*

A) God orchestrated a miraculous c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

B) Samson’s failed his c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ & escalates conflicts

C) Samson was captured by his passions & his enemies

D) Samson c\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when his heart was contrite  *Heb. 11:32-34*

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