

# Summer Quarter 2024

## God's Work Through Women and Youths

### Women of Faith

June 2	<b>The Creation of Woman</b> .....	<i>Genesis 2:18-25</i>
June 9	<b>Deborah Encourages Barak</b> .....	<i>Judges 4:4-10, 12-16</i>
June 16	<b>Ruth Follows Naomi</b> .....	<i>Ruth 1:1-9, 14b, 16</i>
June 23	<b>Ruth Meets Boaz</b> .....	<i>Ruth 2:8-18</i>
June 30	<b>Ruth Marries Boaz</b> .....	<i>Ruth 4:1-10</i>
July 7	<b>Hannah Commits Her Son to God</b> .....	<i>I Samuel 1:20, 26-28; 2:1-10</i>
July 14	<b>Esther's Bold Faith</b> .....	<i>Esther 3:2-3, 5-6a; 4:7-16</i>
July 21	<b>The Deliverance of the Jews</b> .....	<i>Esther 8:3-8; 9:18-23</i>
July 28	<b>A Sinner Serves Christ</b> .....	<i>Luke 7:36-50</i>
August 4	<b>A Faithful Servant in the Church</b> .....	<i>Acts 9:36-43</i>

### Young People of Faith

August 11	<b>Young David Anointed King</b> .....	<i>I Samuel 16:1-4b, 6-13</i>
August 18	<b>A Servant Girl Points Naaman to God</b> .....	<i>II Kings 5:1-5, 9-15a</i>
August 25	<b>Josiah Calls the People Back to God</b> .....	<i>II Kings 22:8-10; 23:1-3, 21-23</i>

This quarter we will consider how God displays His greatness and glory through unexpected people—in particular through women (unit I) and young people (unit II).

God gave women a prominent place in His plan from the beginning of Creation. The initial absence of woman was the only thing "not good" when He created the world (Gen. 2:18-15; lesson 1).

After Adam and Eve fell into sin, God gave immediate hope by declaring that an offspring of the woman would crush the head of Satan, the deceiving serpent (Gen. 3:15). The Lord continually reinforced this promise throughout the Old Testament by using women as His instruments of deliverance at key points in Israel's history.

The prophetess Deborah mobilized Barak and the army of Israel to deliver God's people from the Canaanites (lesson 2).

Ruth was not an Israelite, but God demonstrated His own faithfulness through her commitment to her mother-in-law, Naomi, and through Boaz's protection of Ruth (lessons 3–5).

Hannah overcame her enemies, not through retaliation or her own willpower, but through *prayer*—a weak instrument from a human perspective, but a strong instrument in the hands of God (lesson 6).

Through Esther, God once again gave Israel victory over their enemies and spared them from being massacred (lessons 7–8).

In the New Testament, women continued to be at the center of God's work, as seen in a sinful woman's display of love for Christ (lesson 9) and Dorcas's quiet but impactful ministry to widows (lesson 10).

God also used young people and children as instruments of His grace (unit II). A prominent example is young David, whom God chose not because of his outward appearance but because of his godly heart (lesson 11).

God foreshadowed the far-reaching power of the gospel when He used the witness of a young servant girl to make Himself known to a Syrian military leader (lesson 12).

Josiah inherited the throne as a young child, but he became one of the best kings Judah had ever known, leading the nation away from idolatrous practices back to God (lesson 13).

As we study these amazing stories, let us take courage in our own ministries. God wants to work through our weaknesses so that His name will be glorified.