

Black History School:

God's Glory...Our Story

Biblically based • Culturally relevant • Education as liberation

BHS Overview

In Black History School (BHS), we're juxtaposing salvation history (God's Glory) with Black history (our story). This Unexpected Strength series studies similarities between the victories God gave God's people in the Old Testament and the victories God gives us as we seek to dismantle systems of oppression.

Victory for a Season

Judges 5:1 & 2, 24-27 and 31

What You Will Learn:

The importance of organizing, coordinating and cooperating when fighting for freedom.

What are Waves and Cycles?

- "Have you ever seen waves at the beach? What do they do? They come in cycles and repeat themselves over and over again. The waves go up and down until they reach the shore. Once they reach the shore they are pulled back into the ocean and repeat the cycles or waves.
- In the Bible, the Israelites went through cycles too. They would forget about God and disobey God, get into trouble and suffer, cry out to God, and God would send someone to help them. That's THREE waves.
 - Forgetting and Disobeying God
 - Getting Into Trouble and Asking God for Help
 - God Helping and Delivering the Israelites (Giving them Victory)
- The Israelites go through these cycles that usually end in Victory for a Season or for a short time.



Building Biblical Knowledge (What is happening in the book of Judges?)

The Israelites are in their third wave! God has given them victory over their enemies and now they are able to rest and be at peace. Israel celebrates their victory by singing The Song of Deborah.

Focal Text: Judges 5:1-2 & verses 24-31

Blessed is Jael,
The woman who helped save God's people.
She was brave and did what was right.

The enemy's leader came to her tent,
Asking for water because he was tired.
But Jael gave him milk to drink
And covered him with a warm blanket.

While he was sleeping,
She stopped him from hurting anyone else.
Because of her, God's people won the battle!

The enemy's family waited for him to come home,
But he never returned.

May everyone who fights against God fail,
But may those who love God shine like the sun
And live in peace forever!

Questions and Conversation

1. How do you think the people of Israel were feeling as they sang this song?
2. Why was it important for them to tell the story of Deborah, Barak and Jael?

Black History Parallels Seasons of Victory!



Pictured from Left to Right:

Florence Griffith Joyner (Flo-Jo), Fastest Women ever recorded

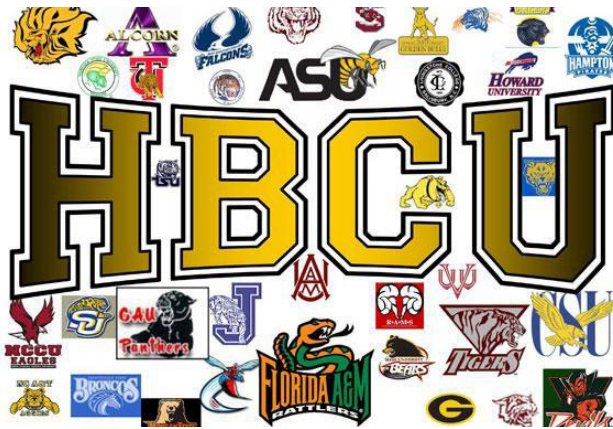
Craig Melvin, broadcast journalist and co-host of the Today Show

Mae C. Jemison, engineer, physician, and astronaut, & the first Black woman in space

Ryan Coogler, African-American filmmaker

- **First Wave: Freedoms after Slavery**

- After the Civil War, Black people started building schools and colleges like HBCUs, so they could learn and grow. This was a great victory! But then, trouble came again with unfair laws called Jim Crow.



- **Second Wave: Civil Rights Movement**

- Like Deborah, people like Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Fannie Lou Hamer organized and got people to work together to make things fair. They helped to change unfair laws. This was a great victory!



Aug. 6, 1965, Washington, DC. President Lyndon Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act, as Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. looks on.



- **Third Wave: Today's Fight for Justice**

- Even now, people are working together, like in Black Lives Matter, to make the world a better place for all people, but especially people who are often treated unfairly like Black people in America.
- Leaders like Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson remind us to keep going!
- Movements like Black Lives Matter, remind us that each of us can contribute to our collective liberation and freedom!



- **Fourth Wave: What do you think our next victorious wave will look like?**