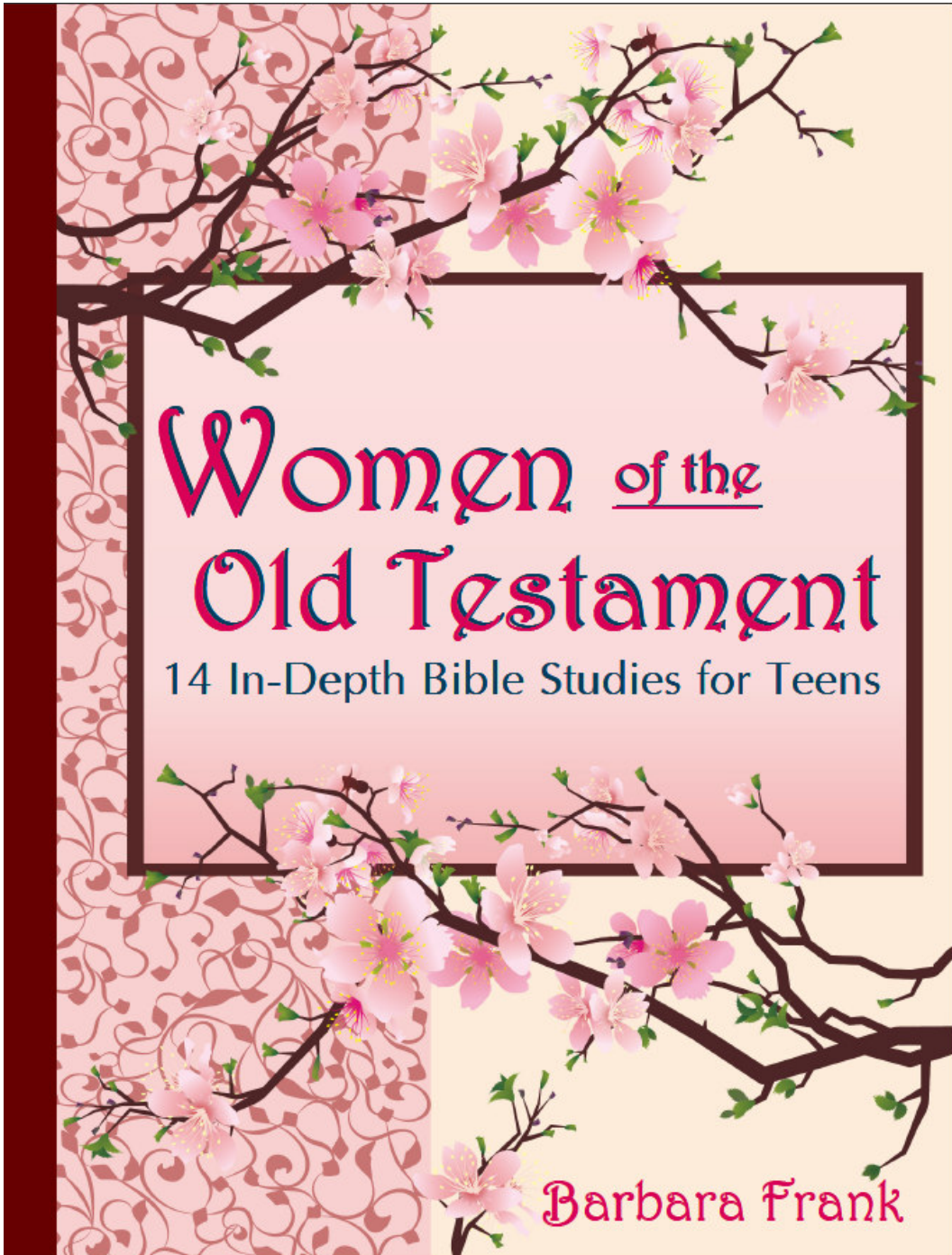


Free sample study courtesy of
CARDAMOM PUBLISHERS



www.CardamomPublishers.com



Women of the Old Testament

14 In-Depth Bible Studies for Teens
with Mother-Daughter Discussion Starters



Answer key included

CARDAMOM PUBLISHERS
JANESVILLE, WI

Contents



How to Use This Book	vii
1. Eve.....	2
2. Sarah	18
3. Rebekah	38
4. Rachel and Leah	58
5. The Midwives, the Princess and Miriam	76
6. Rahab	90
7. Deborah and Jael	100
8. Ruth	110
9. Hannah	126
10. Abigail	138
11. Bathsheba	152
12. The Shunammite Woman.....	168
13. Jezebel.....	180
14. Esther	192
Answer Key	221



How to Use This Book

I've used Bible study curricula from several different publishers while homeschooling my children. I always wanted to write my own, but never found the time until my third child reached her early teens. That's when I finally wrote this Bible curriculum about the best-known women of the Old Testament.

Like many Bible studies, this book includes questions and an answer key. However, it's different from most Bible studies because part of it requires your participation as well as your daughter's.

Each study has three sections. The first section consists of questions that lead your daughter through the Bible story methodically, asking for specific details that can be found through careful reading. I used this format so that my daughter would pick up many of the details she might otherwise miss in a cursory reading of the text.

The second section, "Short Essay Questions," helped my daughter think about the story she had just read, details and all, and come to some conclusions about it.

Our favorite section was the third section, "Discussion Starters for Mothers and Daughters." We usually set aside a specific time for just the two of us after she finished studying each Bible story. I thought up the discussion starters to help me relate aspects of each story to my own life. My daughter loved hearing about my experiences, and I enjoyed sharing them with her. Thanks to these discussions, we learned a lot about each other, and drew even closer in the process. I encourage you to add experiences of your own, should they occur to you, to keep each discussion going.

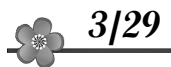
If you're not familiar with these Bible stories, you'll want to read each one before doing the related discussion starters with your daughter. You might also want to read the discussion starters a day or two ahead of time so you have time to think about them; this helps bring back memories you can share with your daughter.

Some of the topics discussed in this study are appropriate for teens but not younger girls, so the recommended age range is 13 and up.



You can assign this book any way you like. I usually assigned one or two pages of questions daily, correcting them as my daughter completed them (the answer key is included in the back; its pages have a solid side border to make the key easy to find.) After she finished the questions, I'd assign her the short essay questions for one or more days' work. Once we'd gone over those, we'd take time out to sit and chat about the discussion starters, sometimes over a cup of hot chocolate and a sweet snack.

At the beginning of each group of questions, you'll see this symbol:



You can write an assignment date next to the flower on each blank so your daughter will know which day you want her to do the work. If she's working through the book more informally, she can write down the dates as she goes along, making the book more like a journal.

The "Short Essay Questions" also add to the "journal feel" of this book. I loved reading my daughter's essay question answers when I recently re-read our original version of this book during the publishing process. She's currently a college student, so it's been five years since she wrote those answers. Reading them again revealed her spiritual growth over the past five years and also brought back wonderful memories of the young girl she used to be.

Your daughter can use any translation of the Bible that you prefer with this book. I used the King James Version (KJV) and New International Version (NIV) when I wrote it; please keep that in mind when you correct the answers. The answer key occasionally quotes directly from the KJV or NIV, so a specific quote might be different in another translation. When in doubt, use your best judgment.

If you choose to grade your daughter's work, just keep track of the percentage of correct answers in each section, and average them out at the end of the grading period.

I hope this Bible curriculum is a blessing to your daughter... and to you!

Barbara Frank
March 2010





Abigail

1 Samuel 25

Time Period: 1010 BC

The story of Abigail is also a story from the life of David, the shepherd boy from Bethlehem who was anointed by Samuel, defeated the giant Goliath, and eventually became king. Abigail's wisdom saved the lives of others as well as her own. She humbled herself, yet ended up as royalty.



Read 1 Samuel 25:1-3, then answer the following questions:

1. Where did David move to in verse 1?

2. Describe the wealthy man who lived there.



3. Describe the wealthy man's wife.



Read 1 Samuel 25:4-12

4. What did David hear about Nabal while he was in the desert?
5. Who did David send to visit Nabal? Why?
6. How were David's messengers received?
7. What did David's messengers do?



Read 1 Samuel 25:13-17

8. How did David react to Nabal's response?
9. Read 1 Samuel 21:11; what was David's reputation?
10. Judging from what you've read so far, where was David going?
11. How many men went with David?

12. How many men stayed behind?
13. Why didn't *all* of the men go with David?
14. In verses 14-17, a servant informs Nabal's wife Abigail of what's been going on. What did the servant say occurred when David sent his men to greet Nabal?
15. According to the servant, how had David's men treated Nabal's servants when they were out shearing the sheep in the desert?
16. Why did the servant say disaster was hanging over Nabal and his household?
17. Why didn't the servant warn Nabal of the impending danger?



Read 1 Samuel 25:18-22

18. What phrase indicates how quickly Abigail reacted to the servant's news?
19. What did Abigail pack up?



20. Where was she going with these items?
21. Who was going with her?
22. Did her husband know what she was up to?
23. Who did Abigail meet in the ravine?
24. What was their intention?



Read 1 Samuel 25:23-31

25. What did Abigail do when she saw David?
26. What did she do after that?
27. Who did she blame for the way David's men had been treated?
28. How did she describe her husband Nabal?
29. What did she say about David's men in verse 25?

30. Who did she say kept David from harming her family and household in retaliation for how David's men were treated?
31. To whom was she giving the gift, and with whom was it to be shared?
32. What did Abigail do in verses 28 to 29, and why did she do it?
33. In verses 30-31, what was Abigail suggesting to David?
34. What did Abigail ask of David for herself?



Read 1 Samuel 25:32-35

35. Who did David credit with sending Abigail to meet him?
36. For what two reasons did David say Abigail should be blessed?
37. What did David say would have happened if Abigail had *not* come quickly to meet David and his men?
38. Did David accept Abigail's gift?



39. What did David tell Abigail to do?

40. What did he say about the things she had said?



Read 1 Samuel 25:36-42

41. What was Nabal doing when Abigail got home?

42. What kind of mood was Nabal in?

43. What did she say to him then?

44. What did she say to him the next morning?

45. How did Nabal react to Abigail's words?

46. Did God heal Nabal?

47. What did God do ten days later?

48. When David heard the news, who did he say caused Nabal's demise?

58. 2 Samuel 2:1-2


59. 2 Samuel 3:3



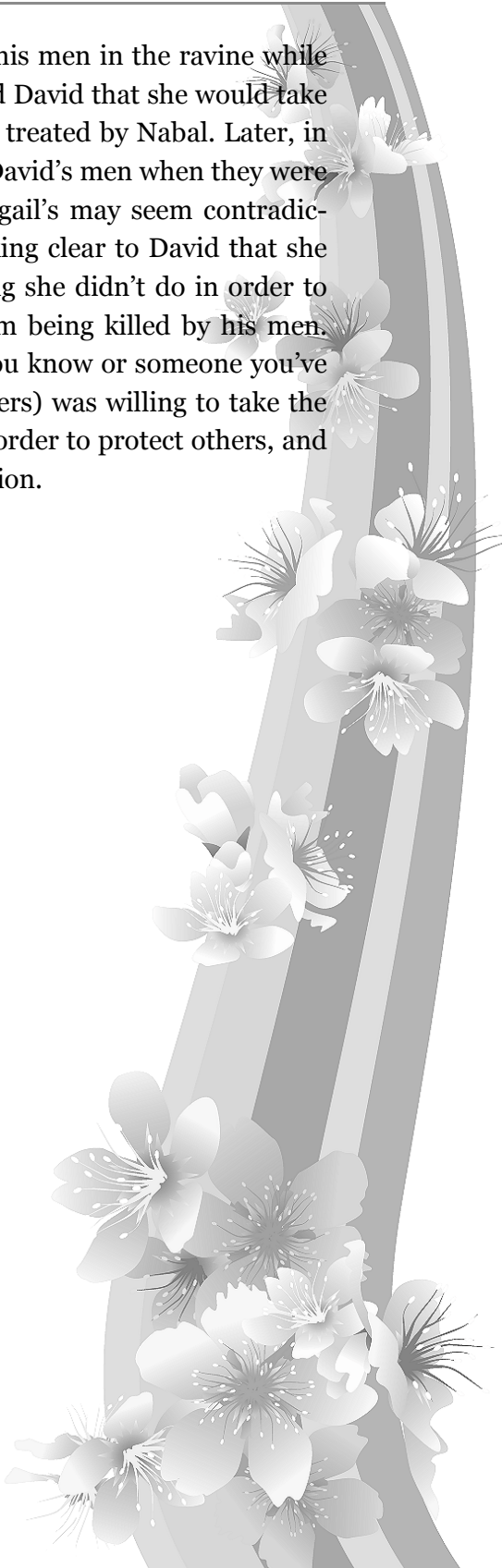


Short Essay Questions



- 
1. Abigail is described in 1 Samuel 25:3 as being “intelligent and beautiful.” In what ways did she display that intelligence in chapter 25? Think of as many ways as you can.



- 
2. When Abigail encountered David and his men in the ravine while on her way to bring them food, she told David that she would take the blame for how badly his men were treated by Nabal. Later, in verse 25, she told him she did not see David's men when they were insulted. These two statements of Abigail's may seem contradictory, but what she was doing was making clear to David that she would take responsibility for something she didn't do in order to prevent her family and household from being killed by his men. Describe a time when you, someone you know or someone you've read about (including fictional characters) was willing to take the blame for something they didn't do in order to protect others, and compare the incident to Abigail's situation.

Abigail



3. One of Abigail's great gifts was the gift of humility. Go back over the story of Abigail in the Bible and find and list examples of her humble attitude.

Now look up the following verses and write in your own words what God has to say about humility:

Deuteronomy 8:2-3

2 Chronicles 7:14

Proverbs 29:23



Matthew 18: 1-4

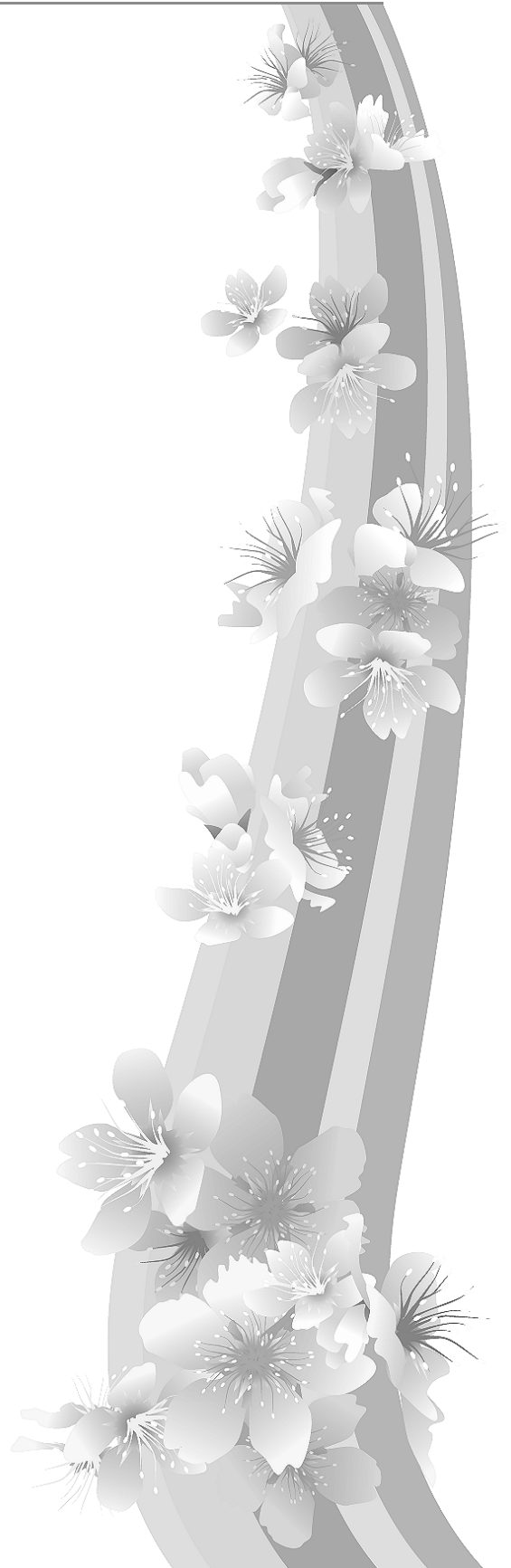
Matthew 23:12

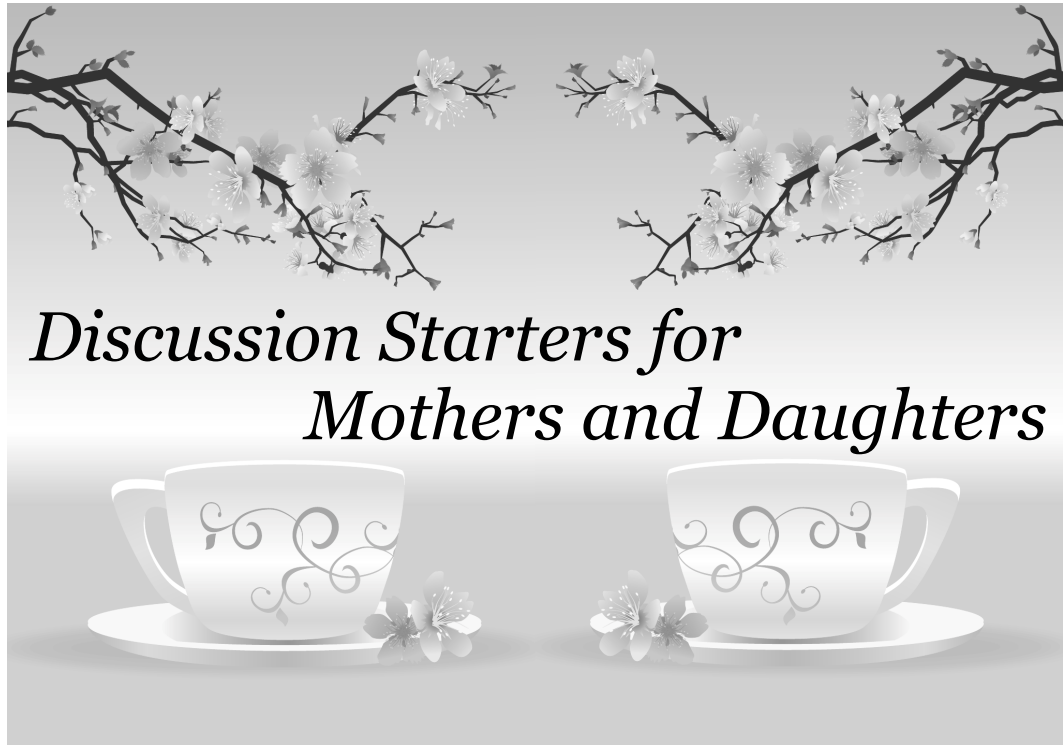
Philippians 2:4-11


James 4:6


James 4:10

1 Peter 5:5-6






—  When Abigail learned from a servant about David’s plan to take revenge on Nabal, she reacted quickly by packing up an enormous amount of food for David’s soldiers. That she had so much food available and was able to have it packed up so quickly shows that she had an organized household. What situations in our daily family life require a prepared household? How can a mother make sure her family is prepared for emergencies?

 When Nabal died, Abigail could have become wealthy and important in her own right, yet she chose to marry David instead. In this case, bypassing wealth and fame to become David’s helper led Abigail on the path to becoming a wife and counselor of the king of Israel. In today’s society, women often face similar decisions of whether to seek money and position on their own, or to live the “old-fashioned” way as a wife and mother. Discuss with your daughter how you’ve faced such decisions in your life; talk with her about how society views the role of a wife, and how God sees it, as evidenced in the Bible.



 Abigail wisely talked David out of acting on his anger, thus preventing him from doing something he would regret. A mother must also do this with her children (and sometimes her husband). Think about times when your daughter has reacted with anger to something; how could you, your husband or others in your family help her to stop and think before reacting? Share with her ways that you've learned to keep yourself from reacting in anger.



Answer Key



1. Eve.....	222
2. Sarah	227
3. Rebekah	233
4. Rachel and Leah	241
5. The Midwives, the Princess and Miriam	248
6. Rahab	252
7. Deborah and Jael	255
8. Ruth	258
9. Hannah	264
10. Abigail	268
11. Bathsheba	272
12. The Shunammite Woman.....	277
13. Jezebel.....	280
14. Esther	284





Abigail

1 Samuel 25:1-3

1. David moved down into the wilderness of Paran. (verse 1)
2. His name was Nabal, and he was very wealthy and had property in Carmel. He had 1,000 goats and 3,000 sheep (which were being sheared in Carmel). Nabal was a Calebite, and was surly and mean. (verses 2-3)
3. Her name was Abigail, and she was intelligent and beautiful. (verse 3)

1 Samuel 25:4-12

4. David heard that Nabal was shearing sheep. (verse 4)
5. David sent 10 young men to visit Nabal, to greet him in David's name, and to ask for some food. (verses 5-8)
6. They were received rudely; Nabal refused to give them anything to eat. (verses 10-11)
7. They returned to David and told him everything Nabal had said. (verse 12)

1 Samuel 25:13-17

8. David told his men to put on their swords, and he put on his sword. (verse 13)
9. He was known for killing tens of thousands of men in battle.
10. David was going to fight with Nabal.
11. About 400 men went with David. (verse 13)
12. There were 200 men who remained behind. (verse 13)
13. Some had to watch over their supplies. (verse 13)
14. He said Nabal hurled insults at David's men. (verse 14)
15. The servant said David's men had been very good to Nabal's servants, had not taken anything from them, and had even guarded them while



they were herding their sheep. (verses 15-16)

16. The servant knew David would be back to fight because Nabal had insulted him. (verse 17)
17. The servant knew Nabal wouldn't listen to him; he said Nabal was so wicked that no one could talk to him. (verse 17)

1 Samuel 25:18-22

18. Abigail "made haste." (verse 18)
19. She packed up 200 loaves of bread, two skins of wine, five dressed sheep, five measures of parched corn, 100 clusters of raisins, and 200 cakes of figs. (verse 18)
20. Abigail was bringing food to David's men, as he had originally requested.
21. Her servants were going with her. (verse 19)
22. No; she did not tell him. (verse 19)
23. Abigail met David and his men. (verse 20)
24. They intended to kill Nabal and his people. (verse 22)

1 Samuel 25:23-31

25. Abigail quickly got off her donkey and bowed before David. (verse 23)
26. Abigail fell at his feet and began to speak. (verse 24)
27. She took the blame. (verse 24)
28. She said he was wicked, that his name was Fool, and that folly went with him. (verse 25)
29. Abigail said she had not see them when they came and talked to Nabal. (verse 25)
30. She said the Lord had kept him from avenging himself. (verse 26)
31. She was giving the gift to David, and asked that he give it to his men. (verse 27)
32. Abigail requested blessings for David, therefore showing him that she respected him. She did this to soften David's heart in hopes he would decide against punishing Nabal and his household.
33. Abigail told David that once God made him leader over Israel, David wouldn't want the guilt of knowing that he killed Nabal's family in revenge. (verse 30)



34. She asked that he remember her once God brought him success. (verse 31)

1 Samuel 25:32-35

35. David said God had sent Abigail. (verse 32)
36. He said Abigail should be blessed for (1) having good judgment and (2) for keeping himself from murdering out of revenge. (verse 33)
37. David said none of the men belonging to Nabal would have been alive by the next morning. (verse 34)
38. Yes (verse 35)
39. He told her to go home in peace. (verse 35)
40. He said he had heard her words and granted her request. (verse 35)

1 Samuel 25:36-42

41. Nabal was holding a banquet as a king would have done. (verse 36)
42. He was happy and drunk. (verse 36)
43. She didn't tell him anything until the morning. (verse 36)
44. Abigail told him what had happened with David. (verse 37)
45. Nabal had heart failure and went into shock. (verse 37)
46. No (verse 38)
47. God struck him down and he died. (verse 38)
48. David said God brought about Nabal's death. (verse 39)
49. He said God punished Nabal for his wrongdoing. (verse 39)
50. David said God had kept him from doing wrong. (verse 39)
51. David asked Abigail to marry him. (verse 39)
52. He sent his servants to see her at Carmel and ask her. (verse 40)
53. Yes (verse 41)
54. Abigail quickly went to David to marry him. (verse 42)
55. No, she took her five maids with her. (verse 42)
56. When David fled Saul by escaping to the land of the Philistines, he took Abigail with him.
57. The Amalekites took Abigail and the rest of the families of David and his men captive, but they were later rescued unharmed.



-
58. David took Abigail and his other wife Ahinoam to Hebron to live.
 59. Abigail and David had a son named Chiliab or Kiliab (also called Daniel); see 1 Chronicles 3:1.

Short Essay Questions

1. Abigail quickly reacted to prevent a tragedy, she didn't tell her husband that she was sending food to David and his men, she humbled herself before David, she apologized for her husband's behavior, she asked for forgiveness on behalf of her husband, she made David realize that killing Nabal and his family would not be a good thing for him personally, she waited to tell Nabal about what happened until he was sober, and she accepted David's proposal of marriage.
2. Answers will vary.
3. Bible verses indicate God may humble us at times to test us or teach us, we are to humble ourselves before God, those who humble themselves will be honored and exalted, we should humble ourselves like a child, like Jesus who humbled himself by coming to earth and dying on a cross for us, God gives grace to the humble, and we should act with humility toward each other.



Women of the Old Testament, 14 In-Depth Bible Studies for Teens
Copyright © 2010 Barbara Frank/Cardamom Publishers
All rights reserved

Published by
Cardamom Publishers
P.O. Box 2146
Janesville, WI 53547

Printed in the United States of America

No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without written permission from the copyright owner and publisher of this book.

Scriptures taken from the Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®.
Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan.
All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com

ISBN 978-0-9742181-5-1
Library of Congress Control Number: 2010904508

Library of Congress Subject Heading: 1. Home schooling--Biblical teaching.
2. Bible study for women.
3. Bible Teenagers' use.
4. Home schooling--Curricula.

May, 2010 • Perfect-bound • 7.44" x 9.69" • 306 pages • \$23.95



**CARDAMOM
PUBLISHERS**

Also from Cardamom Publishers:

The Imperfect Homeschooler's Guide to Homeschooling

IS HOMESCHOOLING STRESSING YOU OUT?

Do you wonder whether your children are learning the right things?

Does it seem like the longer you homeschool, the harder it gets?

Do you sometimes ask yourself how *other* moms homeschool their children, keep their houses running smoothly and still hang onto their sanity?

IF YOU ANSWERED "YES" TO ANY OF THOSE QUESTIONS, JOIN THE CLUB.

During over twenty years of homeschooling my children, there were times when I became so overwhelmed that I almost gave up.

Getting through those tough times taught me strategies for making homeschooling easier. The habits I established and the mindset I developed turned me into a "homeschooler for the long run."

MAKE SURE YOU'RE IN IT FOR THE LONG RUN!

I am so glad I never gave up on homeschooling! I want to encourage *you* to hang in there, too. That's why I want to share my strategies with you. *Barbara Frank*

THE IMPERFECT
HOMESCHOOLER'S

GUIDE TO HOMESCHOOLING



BARBARA FRANK
Author of *Life Prep for Homeschooled Teenagers*

Is Your Teen Prepared for Adulthood? Life Prep for Homeschooled Teenagers

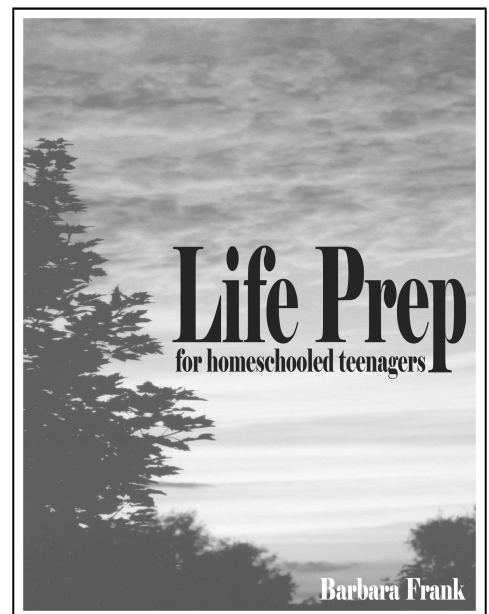
This curriculum includes self-guided projects that teach teens about **credit, mortgages, insurance, taxes** and more, plus assignments that inspire them to **live their values** in their personal and work lives, and strive toward financial freedom.

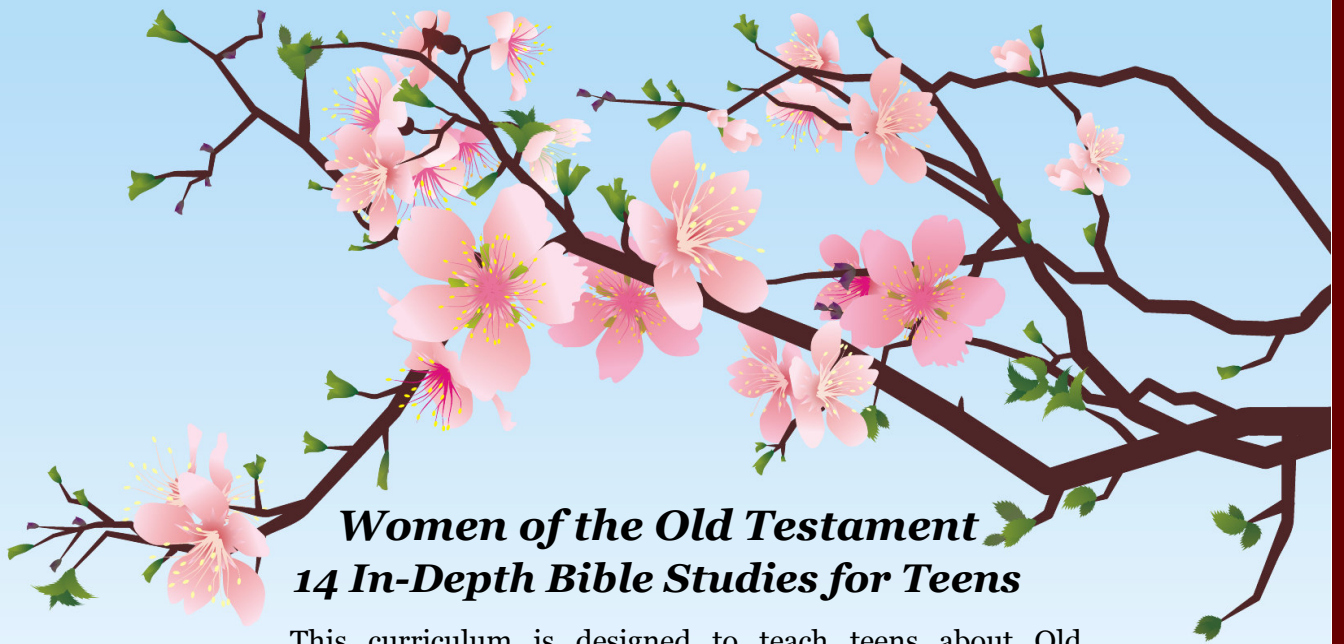
Life Prep for Homeschooled Teenagers covers the real-life subjects we parents wish we'd been taught in high school!

For a Free Sample Project visit
www.CardamomPublishers.com

"Both because of the content and the design, I think homeschoolers are likely to find this one of the most practical and important resources for high school."

**Cathy Duffy, author of
100 Top Picks for Homeschool Curriculum**





Women of the Old Testament ***14 In-Depth Bible Studies for Teens***

This curriculum is designed to teach teens about Old Testament women while helping them relate these famous women's stories to their own and their mothers' lives.

Sarah and Hannah experienced the pain of infertility. Rachel and Leah suffered because of intense sisterly rivalry. Rahab was rewarded for her faith despite her checkered past. Ruth and Naomi enjoyed God's provision for them after both were widowed. Even though they lived more than 2,000 years ago, these women's experiences as well as those of Miriam, Deborah, Jael and others have much to teach today's teens about living God-pleasing lives.

In this book, students work their way through each story, answering basic questions to highlight details and short essay questions to help them comprehend what they've read. The answer key is included and refers to specific Bible verses, showing where each answer is found in the Bible.

Each study includes "Mother-Daughter Discussion Starters," which apply Biblical concepts to modern life while promoting closeness and understanding between teens and their mothers, making this study unique. Learning about Old Testament women together will make this your daughter's favorite Bible studyand yours, too!

ISBN 978-0-9742181-5-1



9 780974 218151

Biblical Studies / Old Testament

WWW.CARDAMOMPUBLISHERS.COM