

ISM Staff Conference

Unlikely Leader Passages

Any of these passages might be constructively used for you with international students to help them see that people of influence in the Bible come from a variety of backgrounds. They are unlikely leaders. But they change history.

1. Acts 6-8 **Stephen and Philip**
 - a. Greek speaking Jews who seemed like “foreigners”
 - b. Were qualified by God
 - c. Needed to be invited to lead/serve
 - d. Had an incredible impact on the mission
2. Luke 22:24-27 **Jesus**
 - a. “I am among you as one who serves”
 - b. From Galilee – almost another country; looked down on
 - c. Of questionable parentage
 - d. The King of Kings but the servant of all
3. Acts 18, Rom 16:3, 2 Tim 4:19, 1 Cor 16:19 **Priscilla**
 - a. Female
 - b. Church leader
 - c. Teacher of Apollos, a great leader in his own right
 - d. Co worker of Paul, on equal footing
4. Judges 4-5 **Deborah**
 - a. Female
 - b. Prophet
 - c. Called a Leader of Israel
 - d. Poet
5. Judges 6-8 **Gideon**
 - a. From the weakest tribe and the least clan and the least in his own family
 - b. A thresher rather than a warrior
 - c. Courageous and Obedient
6. Acts 18-19 **Apollos**
 - a. From the Greek speaking world and culture
 - b. Taught what he knew
 - c. Was willing to learn (and from a woman)
 - d. Was powerful in word and eloquent
7. Book of Ruth **Ruth**
 - a. a foreigner
 - b. woman
 - c. common
 - d. devoted
 - e. courageous
8. Book of Esther **Esther**
 - a. In a foreign land
 - b. Selected
 - c. Used what she had – beauty and leadership
 - d. Courageous

