

## ***Lesser-known Heroes of the Bible*** ***Ebed-Melek***

### **He appeals to King Zedekiah for Jeremiah's life. 38:1-9**

- ◆ Why did the officials put him in a cistern versus just killing him?
- ◆ Ebed-Melek (*servant of the king*) is a Cushite official (eunuch?). Why is he so concerned about Jeremiah? Note the irony here!
- ◆ What big risk is Ebed-Melek taking here on Jeremiah's behalf?

### **He delivers Jeremiah after winning over Zedekiah. 38:10-13**

- ◆ Note what Zedekiah is doing when Ebed-Melek approaches him. Why does Zedekiah agree here to Ebed-Melek's plea after his spineless comment in 5a?
- ◆ What does the focus on rags/clothes reveal about Ebed-Melek?

### **He is promised deliverance for trusting in God. 39:15-18**

- ◆ Jeremiah informs Ebed-Melek that God will reward him with his life for his trust in Him in the matter of Jeremiah.
- ◆ Does this story call to mind any other biblical episodes?
- ◆ How should Ebed-Melek's behavior here affect us today?

