

1. How did Artemisia Gentileschi's life story contribute to her choice of subject-matter?
2. Dr. Wolfe suggests that some stories in the Bible are like the *Judith*-themed art of Artemisia, serving as a "release valve." Discuss.
3. Artemesia's life experience led her to portray the lives of numerous biblical heroines in acts of resistance and rebellion. Which biblical heroine has your life experience led you to appreciate in her "uppitness"? Explain.

**SUMMARY QUESTIONS:**

1. What is the most important message of *Judith* for you?
2. In what ways does *Judith* meet the criteria of being "uppity"?

3. *Judith* portrays God as justifying violence. How does Judith's story support or conflict with your understanding of the Divine?

4. Where in today's world do you see the potential for Judith serving as a liberating role model?

5. What are the implications of this session's material for your personal life? Your spiritual journey? For your local faith community?

**EXTENDED STUDY:** Read the stories of some of the other "uppity women" in the Bible:

Rebekah (Genesis 24-27)

Tamar (Genesis 38)

Rahab (Joshua 2 & 6)

Deborah (Judges 4 & 5)

Discuss how their circumstances and actions can be interpreted in ways that empower and encourage women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

