**Judson Press & American Baptist Women’s Ministries Sponsor Essay Contest for Scholarships**

**VALLEY FORGE, PA (ABNS 7/16/15)—**In celebration of the new release [*Sisters of Scripture: Mentors in Womanhood*](http://www.judsonpress.com/product.cfm?product_id=18679) by Billie Montgomery/Cook, Judson Press, in partnership with American Baptist Women’s Ministries, is sponsoring an essay contest for American Baptist young women between the ages of 17 and 35. Essay entries may be submitted August 1, 2015 through September 15, 2015.

*Sisters of Scripture* ushers young women into a warm and welcoming relationship with the women of the Bible through the stories of women such as Eve, Sarah, and Vashti, who encountered relationship, trust and self-respect issues that many young women of today face.  Female readers will see themselves in these stories and find hope, love and faith.

Inspired by the book’s “mentoring” focus, the contest essay theme is “Who is the Ruth or Deborah in Your Life?” Applicants are asked to write a 200 word essay that explores this question.

The grand prize winner will receive the Elva S. Riggins scholarship for $1,000 in honor of the mother of Judson Press CEO, Dr. Aidsand Wright-Riggins, III. Elva S. Riggins was a public school educator who dedicated her life to encouraging and empowering youth and young adults.  The runner-up will be awarded a $500 scholarship.

For more detailed guidelines and information on how to submit entries, visit [http://sistersofscripturemnw.wordpress.com](http://sistersofscripturemnw.wordpress.com/).

*Sisters of Scripture: Mentors in Womanhood* retails for $14.99 and is available from Judson Press by calling 800-458-3766 or ordering online at www.judsonpress.com.

*Founded in 1824, Judson Press is a publishing ministry of the American Baptist Home Mission Societies, American Baptist Churches USA. It is committed to producing Christ-centered leadership resources for the transformation of individuals, congregations, communities, and cultures.*

*American Baptist Women’s Ministries is a Christ-centered ministry with a commitment to encourage and empower women and girls to serve God. www.abwministries.org.*

*American Baptist Churches USA is one of the most diverse Christian denominations today, with over 5,200 local congregations comprised of 1.3 million members, across the United States and Puerto Rico, all engaged in God’s mission around the world.*