

Joshua Series “Rahab’s Real Faith”
Joshua 2
March 21, 2021

Joshua 2:1

Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there.

Joshua 2:2-11

2 The king of Jericho was told, “Look, some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.” **3** So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land.”

4 But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. **5** At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.” **6** (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.) **7** So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

8 Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof **9** and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. **10** We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. **11** When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

Is it ok to lie if you have a good reason?

We should be “slow to judge sin and quick to judge faith.”

Rahab protects the spies because she knew Yahweh was the true and great God.

Joshua 2:12-14

12 “Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign **13** that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.”

14 “Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the Lord gives us the land.”

Covenant loyalty.

Joshua 2:24

24 They said to Joshua, “The Lord has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are melting in fear because of us.”

The first story is about the salvation of someone that should have been excluded.

Rahab was included so that you might be included.

She offered us an example of real faith.

James 2:24-25 (ESV)

24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. **25** And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way?

You get far more than you imagined as God’s covenant people.

Matthew 1:5-6

5 Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,**6** and Jesse the father of King David.

“It is the most counterintuitive aspect of Christianity, that we are declared right with God not once we begin to get our act together but once we collapse into honest acknowledgment that we never will.” - Dane Ortlund

Grow Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you during our Sunday gathering?
- Do you have any challenging family members? How has God used them to help you understand grace, patience, or forgiveness?
- Discuss the challenge to be slow to judge sin and quick to judge faith. How is this statement appropriate in the story of Rahab? How might this challenge adjust some your current relationships?
- Being outside the promises and people of God, Rahab had a rightful sense of dread. How is that concern meant to help us make a step of faith?
- Discuss the idea that because Rahab is included within the covenant people of God, you can also be included.
- Rahab completely risked her life on God’s faithfulness. How does Rahab’s faith teach us what real faith is?
- Like Rahab, we get more than we thought within the covenant of God. How has your life in Christ been even greater than you thought?
- How can your Grow group help you apply this passage to your life this week?