

The Old Testament – Questions to Consider

Week 16: Deuteronomy 31-34 ~ Joshua 1-11

Small Group Warm Up Question:

If your house was on fire, what five things would you prioritize to get out of the house?

1. Read Joshua 1:5-9. Although Moses has already said something similar to Joshua (Deuteronomy 31:7-8) this is directly from the Lord. What is the difference in reading something from a devotional or hearing it from a sermon versus hearing/seeing it directly yourself in the Word of God? Why is Bible reading so important? How is your year of Bible reading going so far? How do you want to improve and finish the year ahead?
2. Why Canaanites – sexual immorality, child sacrifice – like a genocide? Hyperbole “totally destroy”, “no survivors” – drive them out, do not intermarry, no business; God was open to those who turned to God – limited battles and region, Deut 20 – pursue peace otherwise – descriptive, not prescriptive – God’s wrath on evil and protection of His people
3. What do you think about the fact that a prostitute becomes the hero God uses to protect the lives of the Israelite spies in Joshua 2? What do you think the significance is that Rahab is part of the lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1:5)? How does that encourage you in regard to your own past? Hebrews 11:31 says, while listing the “heroes of the faith”, “By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.” James 2:23, in explaining the evidential works of saving faith, says that “Rahab the prostitute justified by works.”
4. In Joshua 3, we see Israel cross the Jordan. In this miracle, the flood-stage river is backed up 20 miles in distance, with a wall of water 100’ tall and 2 miles long. Why do you think God has such a miraculous crossing both out of Egyptian slavery and into the Promised Land? (Joshua 3:10) Later in the Bible we see Elijah and Elisha miraculously cross the Jordan River (2 Kings 2) and Jesus is baptized (Matthew 3) in the same location as the crossing. What connections do you see between these events? Why do you think God uses baptism as an outward symbol of our inward repentance and faith?

More questions @ www.southfork.church/discussion-guide

12 Ways to Imitate the Faith of Rahab

Joshua 2 & 6 (ESV)

1. Rahab R_____ Her Life for the Sake of God

Joshua 2:4–6 “But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. And she said, “True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from. [5] And when the gate was about to be closed at dark, the men went out. I do not know where the men went. Pursue them quickly, for you will overtake them.’ [6] But she had brought them up to the roof and hid them with the stalks of flax that she had laid in order on the roof.”

Luke 9:23–26 “And he said to all, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. [24] For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it. [25] For what does it profit a man if he gains the whole world and loses or forfeits himself? [26] For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words, of him will the Son of Man be ashamed when he comes in his glory and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels.”

2. Rahab H_____ the Truth of God

Joshua 2:8–9 “Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof [9] and said to the men, ‘I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you.’”

3. Rahab B_____ in the Miracles of God

Joshua 2:10 “For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction.”

4. Rahab C_____ Faith in God

Joshua 2:11 “And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath.”

5. Rahab B_____ for Salvation for Herself & Her Family

Joshua 2:12 “Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father’s house, and give me a sure sign [13] that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.” (ESV)

6. Rahab W_____ for the Name of the Lord

Joshua 2:15–16 “Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the city wall, so that she lived in the wall. [16] And she said to them, “Go into the hills, or the pursuers will encounter you, and hide there three days until the pursuers have returned. Then afterward you may go your way.”

7. Rahab Publicly I_____ As a Believer and Awaits Her Salvation

Joshua 2:21 “And she said, ‘According to your words, so be it.’ Then she sent them away, and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.”

8. Rahab E_____ the Joy of Salvation

Joshua 6:22–23 “But to the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, ‘Go into the prostitute’s house and bring out from there the woman and all who belong to her, as you swore to her.’ [23] So the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her. And they brought all her relatives and put them outside the camp of Israel.”

9. Rahab G_____ a Community of Faith

Joshua 6:25 “But Rahab the prostitute and her father’s household and all who belonged to her, Joshua saved alive. And she has lived in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.”

10. Rahab Is U_____ Powerfully by God

- The great-great-grandmother to King David - Ancestor of Jesus - A Woman, A Gentile, Sexually Immoral
- Matthew 1:5–6 “and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, [6] and Jesse the father of David the king. And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah”
- Galatians 3:26–29 “you are all one in Christ Jesus”

11. Rahab Is K_____ by Her Faith, Not Failures

Hebrews 11:31 “By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.”

12. Rahab E_____ Her Saving Faith with Her Works of Faith

James 2:23–26 “and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. [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? [26] For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.”

This Next Week’s Old Testament Reading Plan:

Week 17: Joshua 12-24 ~ Judges 1-2

- **Read the Old Testament w/Us:** www.southfork.church/2024
- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo

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1. Rahab Risks Her Life for the Sake of God

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2. Rahab Hears the Truth of God

Joshua 2:8–9 “Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof [9] and said to the men, ‘I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the fear of you has fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt away before you.’”

3. Rahab Believes in the Miracles of God

Joshua 2:10 “For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you devoted to destruction.”

4. Rahab Confesses Faith in God

Joshua 2:11 “And as soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no spirit left in any man because of you, for the LORD your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath.”

5. Rahab Begs for Salvation for Herself & Her Family

Joshua 2:12 “Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that, as I have dealt kindly with you, you also will deal kindly with my father’s house, and give me a sure sign [13] that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.” (ESV)

6. Rahab Works for the Name of the Lord

Joshua 2:15–16 “Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the city wall, so that she lived in the wall. [16] And she said to them, “Go into the hills, or the pursuers will encounter you, and hide there three days until the pursuers have returned. Then afterward you may go your way.”

7. Rahab Publicly Identifies As a Believer and Awaits Her Salvation

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8. Rahab Experiences the Joy of Salvation

Joshua 6:22–23 “But to the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, ‘Go into the prostitute’s house and bring out from there the woman and all who belong to her, as you swore to her.’ [23] So the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her. And they brought all her relatives and put them outside the camp of Israel.”

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- Galatians 3:26–29 “in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. [27] For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. [28] There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. [29] And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promises”

11. Rahab Is Known by Her Faith, Not Failures

Hebrews 11:31 “By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.”

12. Rahab Evidences Her Saving Faith with Her Works of Faith

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