

## Rahab: The Deliverance of Faith

*Hebrews 11:31*

### Introduction

*During the time when Israel was commanded by God to conquer the city of Jericho in an unexpected way, an unlikely woman became another hero of the faith. Rahab was a prostitute. Many would consider her least likely to be in the hall of faith given her loose background, and yet she believed. She had heard the stories of all God had done for His people and she believed the revelation of God. She believed that if Israel had been commanded by their God to take the city of Jericho that meant Jericho would be destroyed. She turned her back on her own culture and past beliefs to step out on faith by hiding the Jewish spies that came to scout out the land. This was an act of faith.*

*Rahab went one step further and lied to others about hiding the spies in her home. While lying is a sin, we must note that she was faced with a choice between two sins – lying for the spies or turning her back on God’s revealed will. Whenever you are faced with two sins, because you are trusting God, you must choose that which will bring God the greater glory.*

*As a result of Rahab’s faith, the spies made a promise to her that her home and her family would be protected despite Jericho’s imminent destruction. Rahab and her family would be delivered when everyone else was going to be judged. The scarlet thread hanging outside of her home would be a signal for her family to be saved, similar to the blood on the doorpost that signaled salvation for the Israelites during the Passover. In both cases, belief in God and His Word brought deliverance. Not only was she saved, she went on to marry a Jewish man and take her place in the genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).*

*Even today, when we choose to believe in God’s Word and in the power of Christ’s blood to provide deliverance, we can be saved from the ultimate destruction of sin. Furthermore, each of us, even the most unlikely, can receive abundant life in the here and now as God blesses us for moving forward in faith.*

### Getting Started

1. Rahab’s past did not disqualify her from her future. Have you struggled with the feeling that past or present sin disqualifies you from receiving the blessing of God on your life?
2. What is one other incident in the Bible when person or people had to choose between two sins in order to please God?

### Let’s Get Personal

1. Have you ever been the unlikely pick for God’s work? How has your willingness to be an agent for God despite your unlikelihood, blessed others?
2. Have you ever been in a position where you were presented with two sins in light of God’s will for your life? What did you do? How did the situation resolve?
3. What is the worst thing that could happen if you stepped out of your comfort zone to obey God? How do you deal with the reality of those fears?

### Take the Next Step

1. The foundation of Rahab’s choice to follow God is her fear of God. Take a moment in your group. Look up the verse using your concordance or your phone/tablet/computer to search for verses that talk about the fear of God. Share your findings in your group.
2. Belief in God and His Word brought deliverance for Rahab and her family. Through this series on faith, how has God been speaking to you through His Word? Where is He asking you to take a step of faith?

### Renew Your Mind

***“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen...” Hebrews 11:1***

---