

Joyful Life Bible Studies

Women of the Word

Rahab

Lesson 12

FIRST DAY: Review and Overview

1. Review last week's lesson on the woman at the well. In what way do you feel you have profited from the study of this woman's encounter with Jesus?

2. Our lesson this week is on Rahab, a woman who holds a unique place in history. View aspects of her life by writing what the following verses reveal:
 - a. Joshua 2:1

 - b. Joshua 6:25

 - c. Matthew 1:5,6a (*Rachab*)

3. Begin your study with prayer expressing your heart's desire and greatest need in relationship to your lesson. Write your prayer here.

for the LORD...
He is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.
Joshua 2:11b

SECOND DAY: Read Joshua 2:1-7

1. Rahab's intriguing story begins in Joshua 2. Read Joshua 2:1-5 and record what you learn about:
 - a. Rahab
 - b. the spies
 - c. the king of Jericho

Advanced Students: Write a brief report on the ancient city of Jericho and its inhabitants.

2. According to Joshua 2:6(7) how did Rahab help the spies?
 - a. It was extremely dangerous for her to protect the enemies of the king. What does this reveal about her?
3. We are reminded through Rahab the harlot that faith can grow in the most unlikely heart. Why is this important for us to remember?
 - a. How does this encourage you to continue to pray and witness?

No pit is so deep that the grace of God is not deeper still.
-selected

THIRD DAY: Read Joshua 2:8-14

1. Rahab went to her roof to warn the spies (Joshua 2:8). Observe the unusual faith of this Canaanite woman by reading Joshua 2:9-11. Write a few phrases from these verses that particularly stand out to you.

- a. Most Bible scholars think Rahab had heard news reports about the Israelites and their God from merchants who stayed at her inn when traveling the trade route through the area of Jericho. Thoughtfully print her strong declaration of faith in verse 11b.
2. According to Joshua 2:12,13 what did Rahab ask of the spies?
 - a. How is this a demonstration of:
 - (1.) faith in the LORD
 - (2.) love for others
 - b. What agreement did the spies make with Rahab? verse 14
 3. Although she was a new believer in the God of Israel, the faith of Rahab must have strengthened the spies' faith. Briefly share a time when a new believer encouraged your faith.
 4. James mentioned Rahab in James 2:25 as an example of genuine faith. View this by reading James 2:17-26. What can we learn from her example?
 5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17. Pause and think about the transforming power that changed Rahab and still changes people today. No matter how embarrassing or shameful our past, when we believe and confess our sin to the Lord, He makes us new creatures in Christ. Write a note of thanksgiving to Him for this.

*White as snow, though my sins were as scarlet,
 Lord, I know, that I'm clean and forgiven.
 Through the power of Your blood, through the wonder of Your love,
 through faith in You I know that I can be
 white as snow!*

-selected

FOURTH DAY: Read Joshua 2:15-24

1. Risking her own life, the brave and resourceful Rahab helped the men escape. View what she did according to Joshua 2:15,16. Describe what you see.
 - a. She was willing to stand alone against her culture and peers. In what way is this an example for you today?

2. Read Joshua 2:17-20. Summarize the instruction the two men gave Rahab.
 - a. According to Joshua 2:21 what was her immediate response?

Challenge: Identify the spiritual symbolism that some expositors give to the *scarlet thread* (cord). See Hebrews 9:12,22. Add other scriptures, if you desire.

3. Read Joshua 2:22-24. What happened after *she sent them away and they departed* (Joshua 2:21)?

4. Rahab believed in the mighty power of God and that He would destroy her city in spite of its massive walls and strong army. What extraordinary faith! Think of the most difficult circumstance in your life today. How is she a role model for you?

*To the One Whose blood redeemed us. . .
To the Holy One called Jesus,
Glory to Your name.
- selected*

FIFTH DAY: Read Joshua 6:(1-16)17-25

1. The story of the fall of Jericho and the rescue of Rahab is recorded in Joshua 6:17-25a. Write a brief news report of this incredible event.

Challenge: Read Joshua 6:1-16. Briefly describe God's strategy for the conquest of Jericho.

2. Consider the attributes of God that this story reveals. List two or three that come to mind.
 - a. What do these mean in your life today?
3. Rahab's family members were also saved on that momentous day. What does this suggest to you about her influence?
 - a. What lessons can you draw for your life from this?
4. Link Joshua 6:25b with Matthew 1:5,6a. How did God bless Rahab after she went to dwell with the Israelites?
 - a. Some Bible expositors think Salmon may have been one of the two spies. The Bible doesn't give details about this, but we know that she became a mother in the lineage of our Lord Jesus Christ. How does this speak to you about the grace of God?
5. The Lord continues to honor Rahab through His commendation of her in Hebrews 11:31. Think about this as you write verse 31 phrase by phrase.
 - a. Share a way this ministers to you today.

SIXTH DAY: Review

1. What have you received from the study this week that you can apply to your life? Be specific.

2. How does the story of Rahab reveal that there are no impossibilities with God?

3. Share a way this week's lesson has enriched or encouraged you.

4. How has your study of Rahab increased your awareness and appreciation of God's:
 - a. love

 - b. grace

 - c. power

5. Provide an acrostic or acronym for:

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*My thoughts are completely different from yours, says the LORD.
And My ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.*
Isaiah 55:8 NLT