

Unexpected Faith ~ Joshua 2



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Joshua 2:1-2 (English Standard Version)

¹And Joshua the son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." And they went and came into the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab and lodged there. ²And it was told to the king of Jericho, "Behold, men of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land."

Unexpected Faith ~ Joshua 2

- ◇ God ordained Rahab to meet the spies in a city of about 2,000 inhabitants who were already suspicious
- ◇ How did two strangers happen to meet up with Rahab, the only God-follower in the city?
- ◇ God is directing your footsteps & those of everyone around you to the people, places & times He desires for your good



Unexpected Faith ~ Joshua 2

- ◇ What do we know about Rahab?
- ◇ The epitome of an outsider
- ◇ These men wouldn't have expected much out of her



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Joshua 2:4-6 (English Standard Version)

⁴But 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. ⁵And 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." ⁶But 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.

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- ◇ She lies to the king's guards & has taken her life into her hands; why?



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Joshua 2:8-11 (English Standard Version)

⁸Before the men lay down, she came up to them on the roof ⁹and 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. ¹⁰For 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. ¹¹And 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.

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- ◇ How did faith happen in the last place we would expect it?
- ◇ God has been gracious! (40 years!)
- ◇ Unlike today, news didn't travel fast
- ◇ God has been gracious to let her hear about His salvation
- ◇ God has been gracious to give her the time necessary to believe & to be ready to act now



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- ◇ This is no snap decision for Rahab
- ◇ God had moved in her & given her faith; now she had to ACT
- ◇ God providentially brought the prostitute to the spies so she would have to behave on her beliefs
- ◇ We're not celebrating Rahab's sin
- ◇ We're celebrating that God saved & used a sinner & that He still does



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- ◇ Rahab's faith:
- ◇ Greater than the original spies
- ◇ Heard & believed
- ◇ Believed in one God, not plural
- ◇ Believed in a personal God
- ◇ Believed in the God of all who delivers on His promises
- ◇ Believed by herself
- ◇ How would your faith described?



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Joshua 2:12-13 (English Standard Version)

¹²Now 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 ¹³that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death."

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- ◇ Sought salvation for her friends & family when their destruction was certain
- ◇ Are you pleading for God to save your loved ones?



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Joshua 2:17-21 (English Standard Version)

¹⁷The men said to her, "We will be guiltless with respect to this oath of yours that you have made us swear. ¹⁸(A) Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, (B) and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household. ¹⁹Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, (C) his blood shall be on his own head, and we shall be guiltless. But if a hand is laid on anyone who is with you in the house, his blood shall be on our head. ²⁰But if you (D) tell this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear." ²¹And 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.

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- ◇ Rahab's beliefs dictated her actions
- ◇ She put the scarlet cord out that very day
- ◇ Kept her family in the house & explained things to them
- ◇ Didn't trust her eyes or experiences
- ◇ She risked everything
- ◇ She acted to save others
- ◇ Her actions proved her faith



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- ◇ Rahab is an example to Joshua & the Jews & to us
- ◇ On the brink of obedience & faith or disobedience & death
- ◇ Must step into the water & cross the river, a relatively small step
- ◇ They must risk everything & trust God for the results
- ◇ If a pagan woman who is a prostitute can walk in faith, can't they?
- ◇ Can you?



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- ◇ Rahab's faith must be our faith
- ◇ Life risking
- ◇ Seeking to save others
- ◇ In Christ ALONE
- ◇ Unto a changed life



Unexpected Faith ~ Joshua 2

- ◇ Rahab's story = Your story
- ◇ Beyond hope...
- ◇ Will you see, hear & know all that God has done for your salvation?
- ◇ Will you live like you believe?



Covenant Membership Class

May 16 & 23



**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT
THE SANCTUARY?**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
THESANCTUARYFELLOWSHIP.COM**

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE THE JOURNEY WITH
YOU AS WE SEEK TO LOVE PEOPLE & ENJOY GOD!**

Student Ministry

Sanctus Summer Mission Trip



- **When?** June 6-11
- **Where?** McAllen, TX
- **Why?** To work on impoverished homes, conduct VBS, and more!
- **Who?** Students in grades 7-12
- **How Much?** Total cost is \$215 per person ~ first deposit of \$50 is due NOW!



Hoops of Hope ~ Thanks!

Our deep thanks to our students, our planning team, the donors & volunteers, and Sartartia for opening the school.

We raised around **\$3000** to send to Hoops of Hope, loving kids in Africa in Jesus' name!



Family Dedication ~ May 23, 2010

If you are interested in dedicating your family to the Lord, please sign up online at thesanctuaryfellowship.com

Helping Hands



Food Drive to Benefit Helping Hands

Every Sunday in May, bring food and baby items to minister to our community through the Helping Hands ministry in Rosenberg. You can pick up a shopping list at the Resource Center today.

Prayer Newsletter

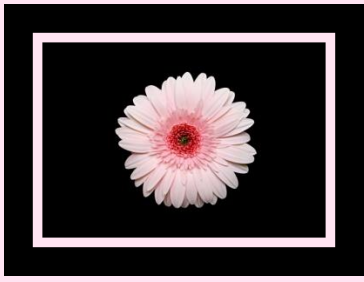
Prayer Requests Online:

Be a part of praying for our church family OR submit a prayer request.

Simply open the “Resources” tab at thesanctuaryfellowship.com and fill out the forms.

Pray with us!





LADIES MINISTRY

* Mother-Daughter Luncheon ~

Saturday, May 22 @ 11:30

* To sign up online, go to

ladies@thesanctuaryfellowship.com

* Ladies Bible Study ~ Monday, May 17 @ 7 PM

* Pebble Creek Ranch Clubhouse

* Frazzled Female ~ Thursday, May 13 & 20

* Moms of preschoolers meet us at the

Greatwood Chick-Fil-A at 9 AM