

AFTER CHURCH DEVO

BY REBUILD

Topic: Faith Behind Enemy Walls

Opening Prayer:

“O Lord, we come before You with hearts open to Your Word. As the psalmist declared, ‘Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law’ (Psalm 119:18). Guide us in understanding and applying Your truths today. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.”

Read: Joshua 2

Imagine risking your life for a promise, believing in the unseen power of a God you’ve only heard about. This was the faith of Rahab, a woman living in the fortified city of Jericho. The story of Rahab in Joshua 2 offers a profound illustration of faith and redemption.

When Joshua sent two spies to scout out Jericho, they ended up in Rahab’s house. Rahab, despite being a Canaanite and a known harlot, demonstrated an unexpected faith. She had heard of the Israelites and the wonders their God had performed—especially the parting of the Red Sea and the defeat of Sihon and Og. This knowledge stirred her belief, and she chose to act on that faith.

In the ancient Near East, cities like Jericho were heavily fortified, with walls thick enough to contain living quarters like Rahab’s house. Rahab’s choice to hide the spies on her roof, beneath stalks of flax, was risky. Not only did she defy her own people, but she also placed her trust in a foreign God based solely on what she had heard. Rahab’s statement in Joshua 2:11 is pivotal: “For the Lord your God, he is God in the heavens above and on the earth beneath.” The Hebrew word she uses for “God” here is Elohim, a term that reflects God’s sovereignty and power. This acknowledgment from a pagan woman encapsulates the essence of faith—recognition of God’s supreme authority and trust in His power to save.

Rahab’s faith led to a promise of safety for her and her family. She tied a scarlet cord in her window as a sign to the Israelites during their attack on Jericho. The scarlet cord symbolizes her faith and parallels the blood on the doorposts during the first Passover (Exodus 12:13), pointing to the future redemption through Christ’s blood. Hebrews

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

Rahab’s story underscores that faith often requires action and a departure from the familiar or safe. She had no guarantees except the promise given by the spies. Her faith was not merely intellectual assent but involved trust and action that led to her deliverance and inclusion in the lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1:5).

In our own lives, faith in God should likewise move us to action. This might involve stepping out of our comfort zones or standing firm in our beliefs despite cultural pressures. Just as Rahab’s faith saved her from destruction, our faith in Christ provides eternal salvation and calls us to live differently in response to His promises.

Conclusion:

Rahab’s faith reminds us that God’s grace extends beyond our past and circumstances. Her story encourages us to trust in God’s sovereignty and act on His promises, no matter how daunting the situation.

Discussion Questions:

For Students:

1. What does Rahab’s faith teach us about trusting God with our future?
2. How can we show faith in our everyday decisions at school or with friends?
3. What are some risks you might need to take to stand up for your faith?

For Parents:

1. How can Rahab’s faith inspire us to trust God with our family’s safety and future?
2. In what ways can we demonstrate faith through our actions as a family?
3. How can we teach our children to have faith in God’s promises even when it’s challenging?

For Professionals:

1. How can Rahab’s story encourage you to live out your faith in your workplace?
2. What are some risks you might need to take in your career to stay true to your faith?
3. How can you use your position or influence to act on your faith as Rahab did?

Identify one area in your life where you need to trust God more. Take a step of faith this week by acting on one of His promises, whether it’s sharing your faith, making a difficult decision, or reaching out to help someone in need. Document your experience and reflect on how God worked through your faith.