

Not so LITTLE WOMEN



Week 5: RAHAB

Today's Verses:

EXODUS 33:19
ISAIAH 55:8-9
JOSHUA 2:1-21; 6:25
ROMANS 3:23; 1 JOHN 1:8
GENESIS 3:6,7,21
GENESIS 4; EXODUS 12
JOHN 14:6; ACTS 4:12
HEBREWS 9:22
PROVERBS 16:25
JAMES 2:25; HEBREWS 11:31

Read: JOSHUA 2

Ask/Discuss:

- What did you learn about God in this passage/message?
- What did you learn about yourself/humanity in this passage/message?
- How can we better reflect Jesus together as we live in diverse community?
- How do you feel led to foster healthy, Gospel-centered community this week?

Sermon Recap: RAHAB

We are doing a series, called Not So Little Women, where we look at the stories of different women in the Bible. Today we look at an unlikely ancestor of Jesus, Rahab.

- **Who was Rahab?** – Rahab was a prostitute living in the city of Jericho when the Israelites were about to invade and conquer the land.
- **What is her story?** – When Joshua sent two spies to scout out Jericho before attacking, Rahab hid the spies and helped them escape, lying to the authorities about their whereabouts. She made the spies promise to spare her and her family when the Israelites attacked. When Jericho was conquered, Rahab and her family were spared, as promised, and she was allowed to live among the Israelites from then on.
- **What do we learn from Rahab?**
 1. **God extends grace and mercy even to great sinners.** Though Rahab was a prostitute, God still had mercy on her because of her faith. This shows us that no one is beyond the reach of God's grace.
 2. **Salvation is only by God's grace, not by our own works.** Rahab was saved because of God's mercy despite her sinfulness. Like Rahab, we are all saved by God's grace alone through faith, not by our own righteousness.
 3. **God's grace is abundant. Not only did God spare Rahab's life but He brought her into the covenant people of Israel, made her an ancestor of Christ, and commended her as an example of faith.** The grace God shows His people far exceeds what we could ever deserve.

Sometimes when we see God extend His grace to wicked people, we can be a bit conflicted. We can doubt the genuineness of their faith and even doubt that God would really save a person so wicked.

But maybe we should not be focusing on the depths of their sin or the heights of their unworthiness. Maybe God would have us focus on the wonders and beauties of His grace and mercy shown to sinners! Maybe we should take a quick look in the mirror to see if we are thinking that WE are more deserving of salvation than they.

The story of Rahab gives us a story of God's grace and mercy to a prostitute: a woman who regularly violates the sacredness of marriage for a living. But behind her story we see that our God is so amazing and merciful that He can turn a prostitute into a "Poster Girl for Grace."