



## PHUMC Sunday School lessons for Preschool – 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

**August 1, 2021 – Rahab (Joshua 2:1-24)**

### **Prepare to Wonder**

### **Faith Word: Courage**

Joshua and the Israelites were ready to enter the Promised Land. God promised to be with them as they entered the Promised Land. The problem was that the city of Jericho stood in the way of the Israelites' entrance into the Promised Land. Joshua sent two spies to Jericho to gather information so they could plan an attack.

Someone reported to the king that they had seen the two spies enter Jericho. The king sent men to Rahab's house, where the spies were reported to be. Rahab was not an Israelite, but she knew God had helped the Israelites escape from the Egyptians. When the men arrived at Rahab's door, she told them the spies had been there, but they had left the city. The men left and Rahab went to the rooftop, where she had hidden the spies. She then lowered them out of the window to help them escape.

Rahab showed courage by standing up to the king's men and helping the spies escape. She asked the spies to spare her and her family when they came back to the city. The spies promised and told her to put a red rope in her window and they would not bother her.

The risks Rahab took were great. What if the king's men had found the spies hiding on her roof? She and her family would have been arrested at the very least. Before she sent the spies away, Rahab told them of her faith in God, "... the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on earth below" (2:11)

### **Wonder with Me**

#### **READ the Bible Story**

- Rahab, from Joshua 2:1-24 (*Read from your Bible, see the verses listed below, or see one of the following pages for a picture of the Celebrate Wonder version.*)

## Rahab Hides the Spies

**2** And Joshua the son of Nun sent<sup>Ⓜ</sup> 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. **2** And it was told to the king of Jericho, "Behold, men of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land." **3** Then the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come to search out all the land." **4** But 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." **5** And 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." **6** But 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. **7** So the men pursued after them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. And the gate was shut as soon as the pursuers had gone out.

**8** Before the men<sup>Ⓜ</sup> lay down, she came up to them on the roof **9** and 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. **10** For 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. <sup>Ⓜ</sup> **11** And 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. **12** Now 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 **13** that you will save alive my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." **14** And the men said to her, "Our life for yours even to death! If you do not tell this business of ours, then when the LORD gives us the land we will deal kindly and faithfully with you."

**15** Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was built into the city wall, so that she lived in the wall. **16** And she said<sup>Ⓜ</sup> to them, "Go into the hills, or the pursuers will encounter you, and hide there three days until the pursuers have returned. Then afterward you may go your way." **17** The men said to her, "We will be guiltless with respect to this oath of yours that you have made us swear. **18** Behold, when we come into the land, you shall tie this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and you shall gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your father's household. **19** Then if anyone goes out of the doors of your house into the street, 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. **20** But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be guiltless with respect to your oath that you have made us swear." **21** And 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.

**22** They departed and went into the hills and remained there three days until the pursuers returned, and the pursuers searched all along the way and found nothing. **23** Then the two men returned. They came down from the hills and passed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and they told him all that had happened to them. **24** And they said to Joshua, "Truly the LORD has given all the land into our hands. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away because of us."

## WATCH the Bible Story

- <https://youtu.be/KgE2YH0MkVI>

## **SHARE the Faith Word**

Faith Word: Courage – means choosing to act in faith, even when you are afraid.

### **WONDER Together:**

1. Have you ever been afraid?
2. How did you show courage when you were afraid?
3. Do you remember what the red cord was used for in our Bible story?

## **Spiritual Practice**

- **Share the Celebrate Wonder Family Activity Book together** (page 20 & 21). On page 21 (*and below*) you will find the suggested Spiritual Practice activity for the week.

**Rahab was courageous because she helped the spies. The spies were happy to protect Rahab because she had helped them.**

**Can you think of people who showed courage even when they may have been afraid?**

**Do you know people in your community who are courageous and help keep you safe? Think about community leaders like firefighters, mayors, preachers, and so forth. Consider writing a letter to a local community leader, thanking that person for his or her courage.**

**Pray that you might have courage, like the leaders in your community.**

## **Go in Peace**

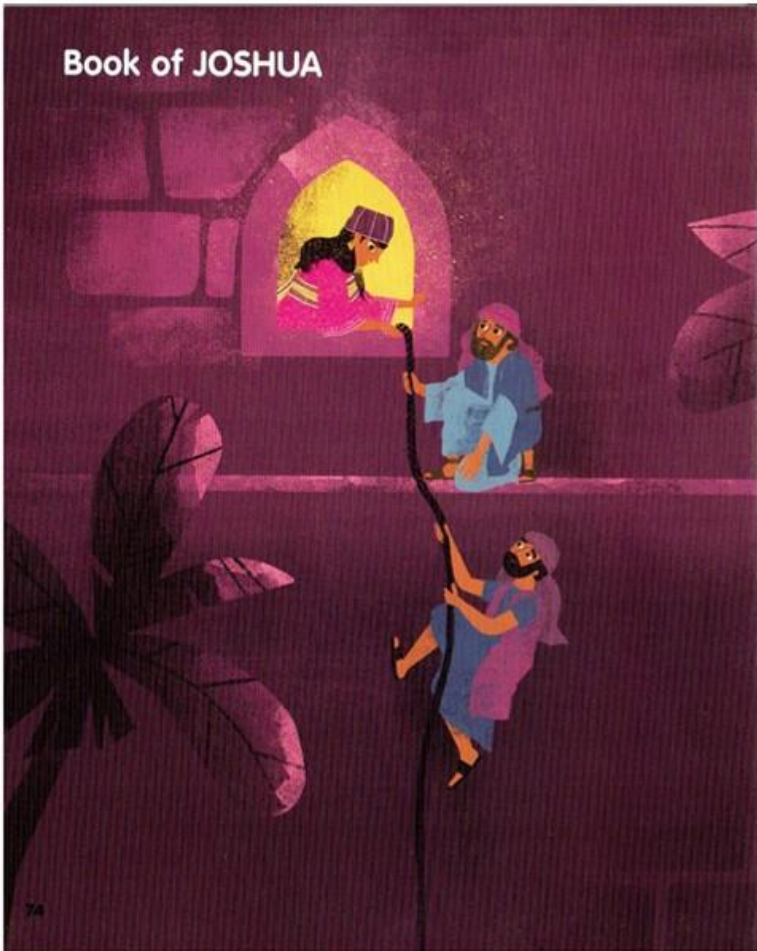
**Blessing:** Touch your child and say: **“May God bless you with courage and strength.”**

**Prayer:** Dear God, help me to have courage when I am afraid. Amen.

## **Additional Activity for each age group**

Select the material toward the end of the lesson that is age appropriate for your child(ren)

### Book of JOSHUA



### Rahab

Joshua 2:1-24

There was a city named Jericho in the Promised Land that was surrounded by a wall. A woman named Rahab lived inside a home built into the wall. One night two men showed up at Rahab's house. The two men wanted to know about the town of Jericho. Rahab was happy to help the men and to tell them about Jericho.

Rahab's family was connected to Jesus. She had a son named Boaz who married a woman named Ruth. Their son, Obed, was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David. Jesus was a part of David's family.

**I wonder:** Why did Rahab choose to help the two men?

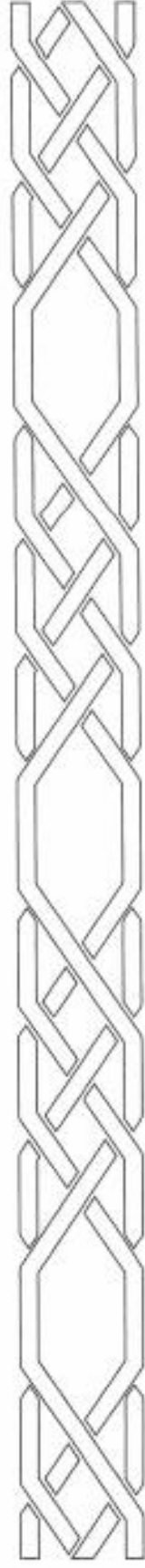


# Color Sheet for all

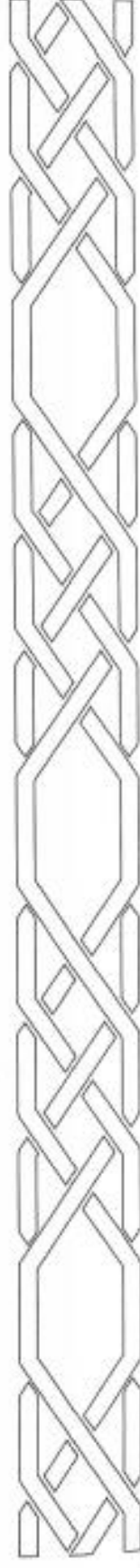


## Faith Word—Unit 3

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GOOD FAITH



# **Preschool Activity**

## **Be Strong (Music)**

**Supplies:** None

**Teach your child(ren) the following song to the tune of “The Bear Went Over the Mountain.”**

**Sing: Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Be strong! Let your heart take courage!  
Be strong! Let your heart take courage and be strong in the Lord!**

**Say: Our bible verse for the month is Psalm 27:14, the song we just sang. Saying or singing a favorite Bible verse can help us have courage.**

**Wonder: What else can you do to have courage?**

# Early Elementary Activity

## Body Prayer

**Supplies: None**

**SAY: We learned about Rehab, who made a quick decision and demonstrated her courage to help others. Our Bible verse for today is “Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord!”**

**WONDER: What does it mean to let your heart take courage?**

**SAY: Let’s do a body prayer to remember the Bible story and the Bible verse. Repeat the words and motions after me.**

**SAY: Hope in the Lord!** (Put your fist straight up in the air.)

**Be strong!** (Flex your arm muscles.)

**Let your heart take courage!** (Place your hands over your heart.)

**Hope in the Lord!** (Put your fist straight up in the air.)

**Amen.**

# Older Elementary Activity

## Body Prayer

**Supplies: None**

**SAY: We learned about Rehab, who made a quick decision and demonstrated her courage to help others. Our Bible verse for today is “Hope in the Lord! Be strong! Let your heart take courage! Hope in the Lord!”**

**WONDER: What does it mean to let your heart take courage?**

**SAY: Let’s do a body prayer to remember the Bible story and the Bible verse. Repeat the words and motions after me.**

**SAY: Hope in the Lord!** (Put your fist straight up in the air.)

**Be strong!** (Flex your arm muscles.)

**Let your heart take courage!** (Place your hands over your heart.)

**Hope in the Lord!** (Put your fist straight up in the air.)

**Amen.**



# Rahab

Rahab helped two Israelite spies hide and later escape from her house in Jericho.

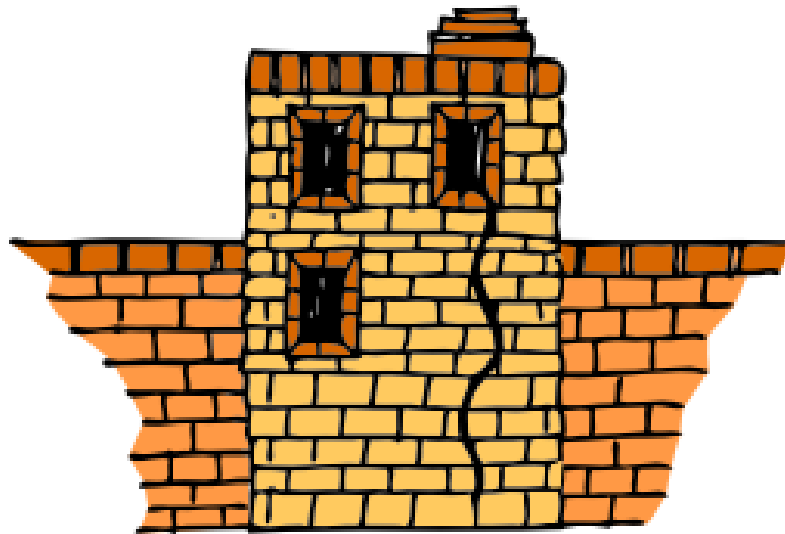
The following words were taken from Joshua 2. Find and circle them in the word search.

JOSHUA  
NUN  
SENT  
SPY  
JERICHO  
RAHAB

JORDAN  
SWEAR  
LORD  
SAVE  
HIDE  
WALL

KING  
ISRAEL  
TWO  
GATE  
ROOF

CORD  
SCARLET  
OATH  
STALKS  
FLAX



S L K I N G B O S I F T  
 E W O S P Y A J Q O L S  
 L J E R I C H O O Y A K  
 L O M A D E A R P V X L  
 A S S E R T R D E L I A  
 W H E L H S C A R L E T  
 N U N E D I H N U S W S  
 G A T E L L O D R O C I