

Study Guide for November 27th, 2011. Fear and Faith: Joshua 2

Intro.: Recall a time you narrowly escaped danger? What did you learn about God?

Read through Joshua 2: Note where the dialogue occurs. Pay attention to what is revealed by the speech of the different speakers. What lessons stand out for you?

I. The Spies: (Read the story again – imagining you are one of the spies – then answer)

- A. Why do you think Joshua sent you (a spy) secretly? (See Numb. 13-14 & Josh. 7:2)
- B. What instructions were you given? Why would you enter a prostitute's house?
- C. What are you (a spy) most concerned about? How is your faith strengthened?
- D. What goes through your mind . . . at night? . . . hiding in the hills? . . .back at camp?

II. Rahab: (Read the story again – imagining you are Rahab – then answer)

- A. What must your life (as a prostitute) be like? Why is your home in the wall?
- B. What do you think when the King's messengers demand you hand over the spies?
- C. What is your view of the Lord? How did you come to this? (See vs. 8-12)
- D. What do you (Rahab) ask for from the spies? What do you agree to do?

III. God: (Read the story again – asking what is revealed about God – then answer)

- A. God had commanded (Deut. 7:1-6; 20:16-18) that none of the people living in the land were to be spared. Does his action of sparing Rahab violate this command?
- B. God had promised to give the land Joshua and the Israelites (See chapter 1). Does the preparation for a siege, including espionage violate his promise?
- C. Note how the word “kindness” or “loyal love” is used twice in vs. 12. How is God's kindness or loyal love demonstrated in this story?

IV. Your Response of Faith:

- A. How is Rahab's faith described in James (2:25-26) and Hebrews (11:31)?
- B. How is God calling you demonstrate the reality of your faith in a present situation?