

I HEARD ABOUT YOU — BUT I WANT TO —

KNOW YOU



Pastor Mark Rigby



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Sermon Summary:

The sermon draws from the account of Rahab in Joshua 2 to challenge believers to move beyond secondhand knowledge of God into a personal, experiential relationship with Him. The pastor distinguishes between knowing about God through the testimonies and

experiences of others and truly knowing God through one's own encounter with Him. Using Rahab as a model, the message emphasizes that faith grows through hearing, but it must ultimately become personal. The sermon culminates in a call for believers to be filled with the Holy Spirit, moving from outward religious familiarity to an inward transformation that produces real change in speech, attitude, expectation, and action.

Key Points:

- Hearing about God through others is a starting point, but it is not a substitute for a personal encounter with Him
- Rahab's declaration in Joshua 2 shows a shift from hearing about God's works to personally confessing His lordship, demonstrating that faith can grow even in

someone who has never been part of the covenant community

- The joy of the Lord is rooted in the promises God has made, and believers should speak and act on those promises with confidence
- Faith must be accompanied by preparation and action, not passive waiting
- Everyone in Jericho heard the same reports about Israel's God, but only Rahab responded with faith and a desire for personal salvation, illustrating that proximity to truth does not guarantee transformation
- Before God changes your location, He changes your desires
- The Holy Spirit is not merely a presence that moves around believers but a power that dwells within them, interceding and enabling them to pray, speak, and act with authority

- There is a critical difference between knowing about God through theology and information and knowing God through transformation and personal experience
- Believers must stop depending on the testimonies of others and pursue their own encounter with God
- Scripture Reference:
 - Joshua 2:10-11, in which Rahab acknowledges that her people have heard of God's mighty acts, including the parting of the Red Sea and the defeat of the Amorite kings, and declares that the Lord is God in heaven above and on earth beneath
 - Philippians 3:10, in which Paul expresses his deep longing to know Christ

personally, in the power of His resurrection

- Romans 10:17, which teaches that faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God
- Hebrews 11:1, which defines faith as the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not yet seen
- Acts 2, which recounts the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost
- Acts 1:8, which promises that believers will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon them
- John 14:17, which speaks of the Spirit dwelling with and within believers