

The Least of These...

Rahab – From Outcast to Ancestor

Culture measures a person's worth by power, popularity, status, and perfection. But the God measures worth on a radically different scale. When God wants calls, He rarely calls the cultural elites, spiritual heavyweights, or the socially powerful. Instead, He chooses the overlooked, the fearful, the broken, and the forgotten.

We will be exploring how God uses unlikely characters to display His divine glory. When our strength is absent, His power is undeniable. Faith challenges us to stop letting our limitations or past failures keep us from stepping into God's calling.

27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being[a] might boast in the presence of God. 1 Corinthians 1:27-29

God meets us in our weakness, redefines our identity, and strips away our self-reliance so His power becomes our only explanation for victory.

Present Faith > Your Past

8 Before the men 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. 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. Joshua 2:8-11

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

God does not check your resume, your diary, or your reputation before calling your name. True faith is measured by your present trust in Jesus...not any part of your past.

Grace = Saved + Adopted

22 But to the two men who had spied out the land, Joshua said, "Go into the prostitute's house and bring out from there the woman and all who belong to her, as you swore to her." 23 So the young men who had been spies went in and brought out Rahab and her father and mother and brothers and all who belonged to her. And they brought all her relatives and put them outside the camp of Israel. 24 And they burned the city with fire, and everything in it. Only the silver and

gold, and the vessels of bronze and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord.
25 But Rahab the prostitute and her father's household and all who belonged to her, Joshua saved alive. And she has lived in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho. Judges 6:22-25

5 and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, Matthew 1:5

You are not defined by your worst decisions. In Jesus, your past is redeemed, and your future is woven into God's Kingdom as an heir.

He > Me

26 For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; 28 God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, 29 so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

1 Corinthians 1:26–29

- When God wanted to make David a king...He didn't give him a crown, He gave him a Goliath
- When God wanted to raise Joseph to the palace...He didn't give him a shortcut, He gave him a prison
- When God wanted to make Esther a queen...He didn't give her comfort, He gave her a crisis
- When God wanted to make Moses a leader...He didn't give him a stage, He gave him a wilderness

God doesn't usually give you what you expect in life, He gives you what you need to become what He designed, created, purposed, and called you to be.

God is not waiting for your moment of greatness. He is waiting for your faith in Him!

The Second Mile: *Going Beyond Sunday*

Let's dig deeper together to see how God is calling and equipping each of us to reach the lost.

Monday – What label from your past do you struggle to believe God has truly forgiven and erased? Who do you see in the mirror? God sees you as His beloved child.

Tuesday – Read Joshua 2:11. Rahab declares who God is. What is so surprising about this lady making such a bold statement? What do you boldly declare about God in your faith and life?

Wednesday – How can you show radical hospitality or grace to someone who feels like a social outcast this week? What part of your story can you share with them?

Thursday – In what ways have you seen God turn a past mistake into a testimony for His grace? Pray that God puts someone in your path who needs to hear that testimony about Him.

Friday – Who in your life needs to hear that their past doesn't disqualify them from God's love today? Knowledge puffs up while love builds up. Who can you build up this week?