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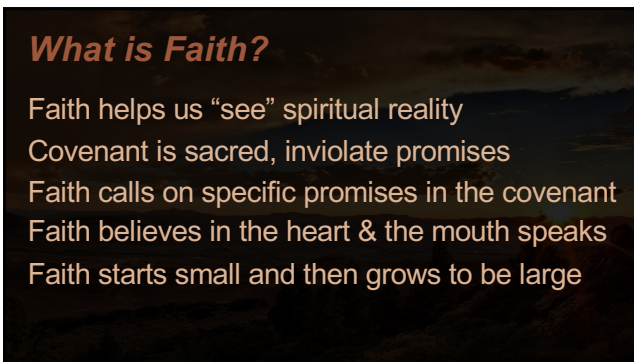
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**What is Faith?**

Promises enable us to live a supernatural life  
Faith is the only way to please God  
Faith Feeds on the Word  
Faith speaks the Word  
God Honors Our Covenants with Others

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**Joshua 2**

1 And Joshua the son of Nun sent 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."

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**Joshua 2**

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."

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**Joshua 2**

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 lay down, she came up to them on the roof

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**Joshua 2**

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,

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**Joshua 2**

10...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.

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**Joshua 2**

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."

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**Swear an Oath**

An oath certifies the truth of our words or pledges fidelity to our words. In the OT, an oath often involved a curse on oneself if there was a failure to perform. Moreover, the oath was regarded as a sign of loyalty to God (Dt 6:13; Is 48:1), and therefore a false oath was to profane God's name

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**Leviticus 19:12**

You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.

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**Examples of Oaths**

As the King Lives  
As the High Priest Lives  
1 Samuel 17:55 He [Saul] said to Abner, the commander of the army, "Abner, whose son is this youth?" [David] And Abner said, "As your soul lives, O king, I do not know."  
1 Samuel 1:26 As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was...praying to the Lord.

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**Examples of Oaths**

As let (pagan god) do to me and more  
Self Curse  
1 Kings 19:2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.

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**Examples of Oaths**

As the Lord Lives Ruth 3:13 “Remain tonight, and in the morning, if he will redeem you, good; let him do it. But if he is not willing to redeem you, then, as the Lord lives, I [Boaz] will redeem you [Ruth]. Lie down until the morning.”

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**Examples of Oaths**

As the Lord Lives And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan. Saul swore, “As the Lord lives, he [David] shall not be put to death.”

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**Examples of Oaths**

As the Lord Lives 2 Kings 2:2 And Elijah said to Elisha, “Please stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel.” But Elisha said, “As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you.” So they went down to Bethel.

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**Examples of Oaths**

**Covenant Promises**      Covenant Promises is the strongest form of an oath that often involves blending of families, usually for a lifetime (or multi-generational) and involves the shedding of blood solemnize

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**Covenant is a Solemn Commitment**

Covenant is a solemn commitment between two parties to give the very best of their title, talent and treasure.

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**Joshua 2**

16 And she said 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.

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**The Lord Upheld the Oath to Rahab**

Like the war with the armies attacking the Gibeonites after their covenant with Israel, the Lord upheld the oath with Rahab because God was the one who made the walls of Jericho come tumbling down and he had to protect the section of the wall that housed Rahab and her family. Incredible power and accuracy and faithfulness!

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**Matthew 5**

33 “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’ 34 But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

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**Matthew 5**

36 And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black.  
37 Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

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**Matthew 23**

16 "Woe to you, blind guides, who say, 'If anyone swears by the temple, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gold of the temple, he is bound by his oath.' 17 You blind fools! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that has made the gold sacred? 18 And you say, 'If anyone swears by the altar, it is nothing, but if anyone swears by the gift that is on the altar, he is bound by his oath.'

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**Matthew 23**

19 You blind men! For which is greater, the gift or the altar that makes the gift sacred? 20 So whoever swears by the altar swears by it and by everything on it. 21 And whoever swears by the temple swears by it and by him who dwells in it. 22 And whoever swears by heaven swears by the throne of God and by him who sits upon it.

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**Hebrews 11:31**

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

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**Joshua 2**

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.

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**Supernatural Relationship**

Rahab’s declaration of faith shows that God had a plan in bringing Rahab and the spies together. This is a supernatural relationship where God brings people together with someone where great blessing flows into our lives.

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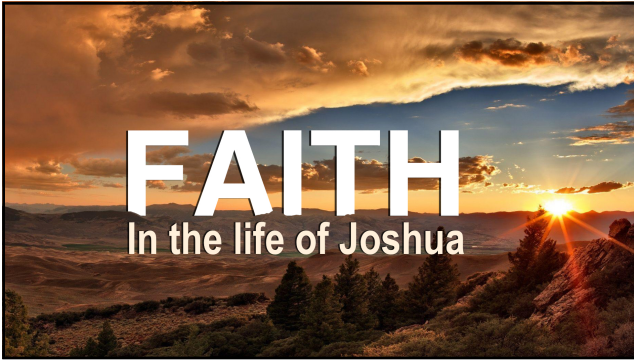
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