Sunday 25th October – Lessons from the Life of Rahab

Joshua 2v1-24 & 6v23 6v25 Hebrews 11v31 Matthew 1v5

***“From Shady Lady to Priceless Princess”***

Background: Mosses has died and Joshua now leads the Jewish people into the promise land. First spies are sent to check it out. They come back with a good report, and also of a Harlot called Rahab who gave them shelter and protection. She already knows a lot about the God of Israel, and knows God will give the land to the people of Israel. The spies guarantee her safety as long as she ties a scarlet chord to her window as a sign. Rahab was a remarkable lady. She expressed a knowledge and a developing faith in God before His people ever came into contact with her. She was ready to surrender her whole life to follow the God of Israel, and leave everything behind. Her faith and desire to follow God is so striking that she is not just mentioned in the New testament, but mentioned as a faith to inspire us, and mentioned in the human family tree of Jesus! It is amazing where faith in God will take a person!

***Discuss some of the following:***

[1] Joshua and the way God prepared him for service

[2] The Spies account of their reconnaissance mission

[3] Rahab –

A: *Her works* – she did not work to earn salvation, but her life showed she was genuine in her desire to come to God. What works does she display? One example might be, “she made her choice to stand with the people of God…”

B: *Her Faith* – Discuss her faith, based on Joshua 2.10, 2.11, 2.12-13 Romans 10v17 – Faith comes by hearing Hebrews 11.31 James 2.25

C: *Her Reward* – She tied a scarlet cord as an act of faith to her window, she was covered!

If you have time you might want to compare the red blood of the Passover lamb in Ex 12

Something special about covered by the blood – early gospel in the Old Testament?

Christ our Passover Lamb…

Joshua 6v17, 6v23 Discuss the process of leaving her own godless way of life, coming close to the people of God, and becoming part of the people of God

D: *Her Inheritance*

Rahab finds peace with God, finds real love, and marries into the people of God, and lives under the blessing of the people of God, and becomes part of the future messiah to come! Joshua 6v25, Matthew 1v5

Discuss the phrase; *“Her past is Forgiven, Her present is blessed, and her future is secure…”*

Pray for one another, that like Rahab, we too will leave behind our sinful lives, and follow God fully and whole heartedly. Like Rahab, by following God, we have turned from Shady to Priceless!