



**Great Lessons
From a Loose
Woman!**
Joshua 2:1-2; 12-15

Theme: God Can Use You In Spite of Your Past History in Life

- There are Christians who say, *“God could never use me for something significant in life, based on my history!”*
- Also, we can judge ourselves too harshly based on the preconceived opinion others have formed about us

When David’s father, Jesse, was told that the next King of Israel would be chosen from among his sons, he didn’t think enough of David to bring him to “The Ceremony,” for the selection process (He brought seven out of eight sons, and David was left at home) 1 Samuel 16 (Your family eventually may bow to you)

- In today’s text, out of all of the people God could have chosen to deliver His own nation, he chose a woman who had the history of being a “Professional Call Girl!”

Sometimes He Uses You Because of Your Position in Life At The Time He Calls You

- In 2 Kings 5, a Great Commander named Naaman was stricken with Leprosy, a disease of close contact, like Covid 19, and monkeypox
- He received word that a prophet, Elisha, could cure him
- Naaman shows up at Elisha's house with horses and chariots, money, pomp and circumstance
- Elisha sends his servant out to greet Naaman (he didn't come out himself) with a prescription to cure leprosy, and Naaman gets mad at Elisha and the prescription and left! vs 11, 12
- But the SERVANTS said to him, *"If the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it?"* verse 13
- Naaman thinks about it, swallows his pride, follows the instructions (dip 7 times in the Jordan River), and is healed.

God Changed the Apostle Paul's Position From a Persecutor of Christians to a Recruiter of Christians

“Even though I once was a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.” 1 Timothy 1:13-14

- Ananias, the preacher, was initially skeptical of having a “personal evangelism class” with Paul, and had to be reassured, Acts 9:13
- God may have positioned you to speak with individuals He wants as His own (co-workers, classmates, a confidant)
- You never know, “who’s watching you,” Matthew 5:16
Husband/Wife, Siblings, Parents, Children, Friends

Rahab Had a Choice to Make When the Spies from Israel Came to Her Home

- **Choice #1** Turn the Israelite spies she was hiding over to the King of Jericho (and be rewarded)
- **Choice #2** Try to protect the Israelite spies to honor the King of Heaven, Hebrews 11:31 tell us what she decided to do:

“By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.”

- She acquired her faith like Nicodemus acquired his, John 3:2

He came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, *“Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God; for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.”*

- Rahab chose to put God’s will above her own and therefore she saved her family, and herself, Joshua 2:12 ; she showed an “intentional faith or action faith”; not just an acknowledgement of God’s existence, James 2:19, 24

Rahab Confessed Her Faith in God to the Israelite Spies, Joshua 2:8-11

*Before the spies lay down for the night, she went upon the roof, and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you **this land** and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on earth below.”*

- Rahab wanted to avoid the doom of a “Sin-Sick Jericho”
- We should want to avoid the doom of a “Sin-Sick U.S.A.”

2 Timothy 3:1-5

“This know also that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,

Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God;

Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.”

This World Is Doomed Like Jericho Was!

“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and Godliness.” 2 Peter 3:10-11

- Peter is giving us information like Rahab confessed to the spies
- Rahab knew that God was a God of Superiority, a God of Strength, and the God of Salvation (we know that)
- Rahab says to the spies, *“I know we are next.”* Peter says to us, *“This world is next, and based on that fact, how will you live?”*

Listen to Paul's Humility in 1Timothy 1:15

“This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.”

- Paul, here, expresses with a great degree of humility that he had to accept the message of Christ (not live by his own rules)
- If we are going to be saved by Christ, we too will have to humble ourselves, accept His message, and submit to Baptism for the remission of our sins: 1 Peter 3:21

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

- The children of God, like Rahab, humble themselves to the commands of God

God Magnified His Grace to Rahab Due to Her Exemplary Faith

- **Rahab lets go of her previous life (her way of living) when Israel captures Jericho, but saves her family (the scarlet rope story; Joshua 2:12-17, 6:22-23)**
- **She dwells with the Israelite nation from that time forward and marries an Israelite man by the name of Salmon**
- **Salmon and Rahab have a son named Boaz, who is the grandfather of Jesse, the father of David, the great King of Israel, Matthew 1:5-6; So David's great grandmother was Rahab**
- **In Matthew 1 there is a list of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, and in that list you will find Rahab listed, the same woman in Joshua chapter 2, who turned her life around**
- **God is no respecter of persons and will reward us too, as we seek His will for our lives**

Acts 10:34

Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is nor respecter of persons;

But in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness, is accepted with Him

- **If a former prostitute can turn her life around and humble herself so that God can use her, He can use us too, provided we humble ourselves in His sight:**

“ ... God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble.... Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He shall lift you up.” James 4:6,10



The Plan of Salvation

Hear the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel

Acts 15:7

Repent of Sins

Acts 17:30

Confess Christ

Acts 8:37

Be Baptized

Acts 8:38

