

# I Believe

## “Do You Believe That God Can Use Sinful People?” Hebrews 11:30-31 – June 19, 2022

### Our Sermon Series

I BELIEVE			
Exploring What You Believe from the Bible's Hall of Faith			
Date	Message Title	Hebrews	Faith Hero
April 17	Do You Believe in the Resurrection?	11:1-2	Jesus
April 24	Do You Believe That God Created Everything?	11:3	You
May 1	Do You Believe in the Rapture?	11:4-6	Enoch
May 8	Do You Believe in Noah and the Flood?	11:7	Noah
May 15	Do You Believe in Miracles?	11:8-16	Sarah
May 22	Do You Believe in Surrendering to God?	11:17-19	Abraham
May 29	Do You Believe God Holds Your Future?	11:20-22	Patriarchs
June 5	Do You Believe God is More Important Than Money?	11:23-27	Moses
June 12	Do You Believe in Divine Intervention?	11:28-29	Moses
June 19	Do You Believe God Can Use Sinful People?	11:30-31	Rahab
June 26	Do You Believe That You Have Enough Faith?	11:32-40	Daniel
More GF messages can be found at <a href="http://WhatsGrace.org/Watch">WhatsGrace.org/Watch</a>			

### My Questions Regarding Rahab's Story (Heb. 11:30-31; Joshua 2)

#### 1) Why did the writer of Hebrews list Rahab's **occupation**? (Hebrews 11:31)

- To give us hope! If a prostitute can be forgiven through faith, then so can I. Nothing you have done is so bad that God cannot or will not forgive you as you place your faith in Him.
- To give us hope! If God can use a prostitute as part of His plan to take the Promised Land, then he can use you and me!
- Application #1 – There is hope for me!!! I choose to turn to God and trust Him with my past, my life, and my purpose. Jesus, please forgive me and use me.

#### 2) Why did Joshua send only **2 spies**? (Joshua 2:1a)

- Because 2 was the # of believing spies back in Numbers 13-14

1 <sup>st</sup> Attempt to Enter Promised Land	2 <sup>nd</sup> Attempt to Enter Promised Land
Numbers 13-14	Joshua 2-6
Leader = Moses	Leader = Joshua
12 spies sent in	2 spies sent in
Land flowing with milk and honey	Land flowing with milk and honey
Giant people in the land	Giant walls in the land
10 unbelieving spies; 2 believing spies	2 believing spies
<b>DID NOT TAKE THE LAND</b>	<b>TOOK THE LAND</b>

- Joshua learned from the mistakes of the past.

- AA definition of insanity: “Doing things the way you’ve always done them expecting to get different results.”
- Application #2 – In what area of my life am I “doing things the way that I’ve always done them expecting to get different results”? What past mistakes do I need to learn from? With God’s help and power, I am going to...

#### 3) Is it ever OK to **lie**? (Joshua 2:1-7)

- Rahab lied to the king of Jericho. Is it OK to lie?
- Jim’s take: Just because something occurs in the Bible does not make it right or wrong. To determine whether something is right or wrong, the Bible must comment on it. (Example: David and Bathsheba)
- The Bible makes it clear that lying is wrong (Exodus 20:16; Psalm 58:3; Proverbs 6:16-19; 14:5; 21:6; 29:12; 30:8; Ezekiel 13:8; Ephesians 4:25; Colossians 3:9-10).
- One of the messages of Joshua 2 seems to be: No matter who you are or what you have done, it is never too late to have faith! God is willing to get His hands dirty. God can use lying prostitutes to accomplish His purposes! God can change your life... no matter what your circumstances!
- Is it OK to lie? I don’t think so, but Jesus did tell His followers...
- Matthew 10:16** – *I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.*
- Application #3 – Is there a situation where God is calling me to be “street smart” in the midst of the wolves? What does it look like for me to be “street smart” while trusting God with the outcome?
- [playmakersinthefait.org/](http://playmakersinthefait.org/)

#### 4) How did Rahab become a **believer** in Yahweh? (Joshua 2:8-13)

- By hearing of His fame and renown from afar (rumors) and believing in Him. She was calling Him by name (LORD = “Yahweh”).
- John 20:29** - *Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen Me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."*
- Application #4a – Will I respond in faith without actually seeing Jesus with my own eyes?
- Jim’s Prayer: “Oh that the unbelieving world would believe in Jesus Christ as they hear about what He is doing in my life and church.”
- Isaiah 26:8** - *Yes, LORD, walking in the way of Your laws, we wait for You; Your name and renown are the desire of our hearts.*
- Application #4b – What am I trusting God for in my life and church that only God can do? What are we trusting God for such that, if He answered, the unbelieving world would sit up and take notice and prostitutes like Rahab would hear and become believers?

