

GREG'S NOTES

A NEW BEGINNING TEACHING OUTLINES

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OVERCOMING THE INSURMOUNTABLE

Hebrews 11/Joshua 6

Have you ever faced what seemed like an insurmountable obstacle? Maybe you're facing it right now—something that is so big, so overwhelming, you wish you could turn and run away. Today we look at Joshua and Rahab. They are literally on the same page of the Bible in Hebrews 11. “By faith the walls of Jericho fell down...” (Hebrews 11:30 NKJV), and “by faith the harlot Rahab did not perish when she received the spies with peace” (Hebrews 11:31 NKJV).

Do you know what sets a world changer apart from a non-world changer? A world changer uses their faith. They go out and do things for God. Like Joshua and Rahab, they take risks. They're willing to put their faith on the line. And that is what we see here now.

PRACTICAL PRINCIPLES

- 1. Sometimes God will allow a Jericho in your life.** Joshua, along with the nation of Israel, stood before the massive ancient city of Jericho—the city that God said they were supposed to conquer. God's battle plan was one of the most unorthodox ever envisioned in human history—to march around the city for seven days, then march around several times on the seventh day and yell and blow trumpets. But it was a plan designed by God to show His power.
- 2. God has a plan for you.** In Deuteronomy 11:26, God says, “Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today; and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God” (NKJV). In the same way, we have that choice before us every day. We can choose life and blessing by choosing to follow God, or we can choose death and the curse by not following God.
- 3. God can take your life and completely turn it around.** Rahab the harlot was an immoral woman, but she hid the spies sent to check out Jericho. She sent them away safely “because she believed in the Lord their God,” showing evidence of her faith by actions. As a result, when the Israelites conquered the city, she saved her family, was pardoned, and was not judged. She was forgiven, and she even made it into the most exclusive genealogy in all of human history. Rahab the harlot made it into the messianic line of Jesus Christ.

RELEVANT REMINDERS

- Sometimes the Lord wants you to take a little step of faith, but first you have to get your feet wet. You have to be willing to take a risk.
- The battle you're in is already won. You don't fight for victory; you fight from Christ's victory. God is greater than your adversary is.
- Sometimes what God wants to do seems upside down from the way we think, but His thoughts are completely different from ours and beyond anything that we can imagine.

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APPLICABLE ACTIONS

After crossing the Jordan River, the Israelites faced what appeared to be an insurmountable obstacle: the first city they were to conquer in the Promised Land, Jericho. But the Lord said to Joshua, “I have given you Jericho.” The battle was already won. If you are facing a Jericho—a big overwhelming thing in your life—if you do what God tells you to do and trust Him, there’s no illness He can’t heal. There’s no need He can’t meet. There’s no problem He can’t resolve. And there’s no person He can’t save.