

Teaching Outline

Series: Experiencing Greatness

Week 4

Heb 11:1-34 (NLT) ¹ Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. ² Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. ...

⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him. ⁷ It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. ...

⁸ It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going...

³⁰ It was by faith that the people of Israel marched around Jericho for seven days, and the walls came crashing down. ³¹ It was by faith that Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the people in her city who refused to obey God. For she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. ...

³² How much more do I need to say? It would take too long to recount the stories of the faith of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and all the prophets.

³³ By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the flames of fire, and escaped death by the edge of the sword. Their weakness was turned to strength. They became strong in battle and put whole armies to flight.

NLT Joshua 2:1-11 Then Joshua secretly sent out two spies from the Israelite camp at Acacia. He instructed them, "Spy out the land on the other side of the Jordan River, especially around Jericho." So the two men set out and came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there that night. **2** But someone told the king of Jericho, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land." **3** So the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab: "Bring out the men who have come into your house. They are spies sent here to discover the best way to attack us." ... **8** Before the spies went to sleep that night, Rahab went up on the roof to talk with them. **9** "I know the LORD has given you this land," she told them. "We are all afraid of you. Everyone is living in terror. **10** For we have heard how the LORD made a dry path for you through the Red Sea when you left Egypt. And we know what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings east of the Jordan River, whose people you completely destroyed. **11** No wonder our hearts have melted in fear! No one has the courage to fight after hearing such things. For the LORD your God is the supreme God of the heavens above and the earth below. Now swear to me by the LORD that you will be kind to me and my family since I have helped you. Give me some guarantee that **13** when Jericho is conquered, you will let me live, along with my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all their families." **14** "We offer

our own lives as a guarantee for your safety," the men agreed. "If you don't betray us, we will keep our promise when the LORD gives us the land."

The citizens of Jericho looked at Rahab and saw a _____. **God looked at her and saw an _____!!**

NLT Joshua 6:23 The young men went in and brought out Rahab, her father, mother, brothers, and all the other relatives who were with her. They moved her whole family to a safe place near the camp of Israel.

What God was willing to do for _____, God is willing to do for _____ too!!

NLT Matthew 1:5-6 Salmon was the father of Boaz (his mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (his mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. **6** Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (his mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).

Judges 6:11-16 (NLT) ¹¹ Then the angel of the LORD came and sat beneath the great tree at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash of the clan of Abiezer. Gideon son of Joash was threshing wheat at the bottom of a winepress to hide the grain from the Midianites. ¹² The angel of the LORD appeared to him and said, "Mighty hero, the LORD is with you!" ¹³ "Sir," Gideon replied, "if the LORD is with us, why has all this happened to us? And where are all the miracles our ancestors told us about? Didn't they say, 'The LORD brought us up out of Egypt'? But now the LORD has abandoned us and handed us over to the Midianites." ¹⁴ Then the LORD turned to him and said, "Go with the strength you have, and rescue Israel from the Midianites. I am sending you!" ¹⁵ "But Lord," Gideon replied, "how can I rescue Israel? My clan is the weakest in the whole tribe of Manasseh, and I am the least in my entire family!" ¹⁶ The LORD said to him, "I will be with you. And you will destroy the Midianites as if you were fighting against one man."

Gideon looked at himself and saw a _____, God looked at him and saw a _____!

They weren't _____ for greatness, but God saw it in them!

Prayer: "Lord, we have to admit that too often we put more faith in how we see ourselves than in how You see us. We believe the voices of shame and doubt more than the voice of our Heavenly Father. Lord, turn our weaknesses into strength and empower us to do great things for Your sake. Amen!"