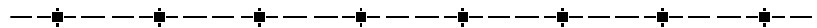


Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2008

Families of the Old Testament



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

A Woman Helps God's Children

Rahab

Joshua 2, 6

Rahab
Joshua 2 :1-14

Memory Verse:

Rahab ... had faith. So she welcomed the spies. That's why she wasn't killed with those who didn't obey God.
(Hebrews 11:31 NIrV)

Lesson Goals:

1. Learn that Joshua sent spies to Jericho.
2. Learn that the people of Jericho had heard how God delivered Israel from their enemies.
3. Understand that people of Jericho were afraid of Israel.
4. Recognize that Rahab had faith in God.

Last week we learned about Moses and Jethro, his father-in-law. Jethro was a blessing to Moses. He gave Moses good advice. Moses was a humble man. Moses did all that Jethro suggested.

Read the Bible

READ: Joshua 2:3-12 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Begin with Prayer

When Moses was about to die, God told him to appoint Joshua to lead Israel. Joshua was from the tribe of Ephraim. Ephraim was the son of Joseph. Joseph was the favored son of Jacob (Israel). (Genesis 37:3; Genesis 35:10) Do you remember Joseph's brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt? Because of Joseph many lives were spared including his family. (Genesis 45:1-7) They came to live in Egypt as free men until a Pharaoh who did not know Joseph came into power. Just as God had told Abraham, for 400 years the Israelites had been slaves in Egypt. Then God sent Moses to deliver them from slavery. (Genesis 46:6; Genesis 15:13; Exodus 1:8-11) Moses told Joshua that God would never leave him, that God would go ahead of him. Moses told Joshua not to be afraid or discouraged because God would never desert him. (Deuteronomy 31:7-8, 14)

Joshua began to lead the people of Israel. An enemy that the Israelites had to defeat was Jericho. Joshua sent spies to Jericho. The spies stayed in the house of Rahab. [Teacher: You may want to mention that Rahab was a prostitute. This is not a profession which honors God. However, Rahab's faith saved her and her family.] (Joshua 2:1-2)

When the king of Jericho sent messengers asking Rahab to turn over the Israelites, Rahab told them that the spies had left at sunset. She told the messengers she did not know which way the men went. (Joshua 2:2-5) The truth was that Rahab had hidden the men under some flax on her roof. That evening, before they laid down for the night, Rahab told them that she knew that God had given the Israelites their land. She told the spies that the people of Jericho were afraid. (Joshua 2:6-10) Rahab told the Israelites that they had heard what God had done for them. They knew God had destroyed their enemies. They had also heard what God had done for the Israelites to deliver them from slavery in Egypt, forty years earlier. "We've heard how the Lord dried up the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt," she said. (Joshua 2:10 NIrV)

Moses —Bible Facts

1. Rahab hid the spies
2. Rahab told the king's men the Israelites had left.
3. Rahab confessed God had given their land to the Israelites.
4. Rahab asked for mercy for herself and her family.
5. Rahab agreed to do all the spies asked.

Rahab continued to tell the Israelite spies that the people of Jericho lived in fear because of the Israelites. She confessed, "The Lord your God is the God who rules over heaven above and earth below." (Joshua 2:11 NIV) Rahab asked for mercy for her family and for herself. She asked the spies to promise that they would not kill her or any members of her families. The Israelites promised that they would not kill her or the members of her family. They told Rahab not to tell anyone what she had done. (Joshua 2:12-14) Rahab lived on the city wall. She let the spies down the wall by a rope. She told them to hide in the hills for three days. She said after three days they would be able to leave safely. The Israelite spies told Rahab to tie the same rope on the windows. They told her that when they entered the land, she must bring her family members into the house. None of them should go out on the streets. If anyone went out on the streets, they would not be responsible for whatever happened to them. They also told Rahab not to tell anyone what they were doing. Rahab agreed to all that they asked. She agreed to do everything they told her to do. (Joshua 2:15-21)

When the Israelites took the city of Jericho, Rahab and all those who were in her house were saved, because Rahab hid the spies. (Joshua 6:16-17) Rahab, ... had faith. So she welcomed the spies. That's why she wasn't killed with those who didn't obey God. (Hebrews 11:31 NIV)

Do you remember anyone else who was miraculously saved? Do you remember how the people of Israel were spared when the blood of a lamb was on their doorposts? God commanded Moses to tell the Israelites what they should do so that they might live. God loves Israel. He loves us. God sent Jesus to tell us what we need to do so that we can live with Him eternally.

Review questions

1. **What did Rahab do?** (Rahab hid the spies.)
2. **What did Rahab tell the king's men?** (Rahab told the king's men that the Israelites had left.)
3. **What did Rahab believe?** (Rahab confessed that God had given the land to the Israelites.)
4. **What did Rahab ask of the spies?** (Rahab asked for mercy for herself and her family.)
5. **What did Rahab agree to do?** (Rahab agreed to do all that the spies asked her to do.)

Do you know Jesus?

God used Rahab to save the spies. Her faith saved her and her family. God sent Jesus to save us from sin. If we confess our sin, God will forgive. The blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:9) If we ask Jesus to come be a part of our life, He will. When we confess that Jesus is Lord and believe that God raised Him from the dead, we can be saved, too! (Romans 10:9-10)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to save us.
3. Ask God to help you have faith.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need salvation.

Application

Joshua, the new leader, was charged with taking Jericho. Joshua sent spies to Jericho. The people of Jericho had heard how God delivered Israel from their enemies, and they were afraid of Israel. When the spies arrived in Jericho, they stayed in Rahab's house. Rahab saved their lives because she had faith in God. Her faith saved her and her family. God wants us to have faith in Him. God will be faithful to us as He was to Rahab.

Planning for the next week:

Joshua (A Family Chooses God) — Joshua 24

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Joshua 2:3-12 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

(Bring shoe boxes with lids. Make Rahab's house. Have the children make a roof by coloring the box top. Cut a hole in the lid of the box to make a hole in the roof. Glue hay on top of the roof. Make one corner higher. Glue a red thread over one side of the roof. Make the two spies and Rahab cut out of construction paper.)

Joshua was the new leader of the Israelites. He sent spies to Jericho. The spies stayed in Rahab's house. (Joshua 2:1-2) Rahab had faith. That is why she let the spies stay in her house. (Hebrews 11:31)

When the king of Jericho sent messengers asking Rahab to turn over the Israelites, Rahab told them that the spies had left at sunset. She told the messengers she did not know which way the men went. (Joshua 2:2-5) The truth was that Rahab had hidden the men under some flax on her roof.

Rahab told them that she knew that God had given the Israelites their land. She told the spies that the people of Jericho were afraid. Rahab told the Israelites that they had heard what God had done for them. They knew God had destroyed their enemies. (Joshua 2:6-10)

The spies told Rahab not to tell anyone what she had done. (Joshua 2:12-14) Because Rahab had faith, she and her family were saved. God loves us. He sent Jesus to save us from sin. God wants us to know Him and to live with Him forever.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to save us.
3. Pray for friends and family members to know God.

Did you know? Preschoolers can be taught to worship God.

Consider this: (Worship in song) Teach the children a song such as, "Praise Him, Praise Him."

(Worship in prayer) Pray with the preschoolers. Have them repeat what you say. Thank God for your snacks, for His Word, and for the place where you meet.

(Worship with your words) Tell the children the reason you love and serve God.

(Worship with your actions) Create cards for someone who is unable to come to Bible study. Tell the preschoolers you will deliver the cards.

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Write the words “ Rahab had faith” on large cards. Write one letter on each card. Have the children hold one letter of one of the words and tell about Rahab’s faith. After they have told about Rahab’s faith, have them say the memory verse.
- **Test your memory** — The Israelite spies asked Rahab not to say anything to anyone until God gave them the land. Have the children pantomime the story.
- **Taste activity** — Bring Red Vines candy. It is twisted like a rope. Talk about how the scarlet rope was the instrument used to save the spies and then Rahab and her family.
- **Think about it** — Trace the genealogy of Joshua. Talk about God’s faithfulness to Israel.

Talk about how Joseph was a slave, the Israelites were slaves, and how God used their enemies to save Israel.

Watch “Josh and the Big Wall” Veggie Tales movie.

- **Touch activity** — Bring shoe boxes with lids. Make Rahab’s house. Have the children make a roof by coloring the box top. Cut a hole in the lid of the box to make a hole in the roof. Glue hay on top of the roof. Make one corner higher. Glue a red thread over one side of the roof. Make the two spies and Rahab cut out of construction paper.

Teach the children how to braid rope.

- **Run and play** — Tell the children that Israel had to march once around Jericho for six days. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times. Have the children march to music.

Tie a rope to a tree. Have the children try to climb down the rope.

- **Listen** — As they take time to listen to God, remind the children that the Israelites did not have to fight the enemies of the land. Remind them that Israel just had to obey.
- **Sing** — Sing “Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho,” or a song related to the story.

Memory Verse

Rahab ...
had faith.
So she welcomed
the spies.

That's why
she wasn't killed
with those
who didn't
obey God.

Hebrews 11:31 NIRV

Word Art

Trace the letters.

Rahab's

faith

saved

her

and her

family.

Word Puzzle

L J A E B R W E D J I W
P D B Z E C U P U H S P
Y T B W B R L D N N F S
E L R A S A H G O L E N
Y F O V H E P T A I H Q
S Y I N B A O X P K M R
D L E W U H R S H I F J
G S M H K N F G D B O H
T V S M D N G I N R L T
F O B O E Y A P W I E D
J L W W N N C L Z O K F
E S R T A K D U N L Y I

JOSHUA

RAHAB

SON

TWO

SPIES

FLAX

THREE

NUN

KING

Word Puzzle

L	J	A	E	B	R	W	E	D	J	I	W
P	D	B	Z	E	C	U	P	U	H	S	P
Y	T	B	W	B	R	L	D	N	N	F	S
E	L	R	A	S	A	H	G	O	L	E	N
Y	F	O	V	H	E	P	T	A	I	H	Q
S	Y	I	N	B	A	O	X	P	K	M	R
D	L	E	W	U	H	R	S	H	I	F	J
G	S	M	H	K	N	F	G	D	B	O	H
T	V	S	M	D	N	G	I	N	R	L	T
F	O	B	O	E	Y	A	P	W	I	E	D
J	L	W	W	N	N	C	L	Z	O	K	F
E	S	R	T	A	K	D	U	N	L	Y	I

JOSHUA

RAHAB

SON

TWO

SPIES

FLAX

THREE

NUN

KING

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

L J A E B R W E D J I W
P D B Z T H R E E H S P
Y T B W B R L D N U N L
G S O N K N F G D B O H
T V K I N G P I N R L T
F O B K J Y A S P I E S
J L W W N N C L Z O K F
E S R T W O D U N L Y I

TWO

SPIES

SON

THREE

NUN

KING

Word Puzzle For Younger Children

L J A E B R W E D J I W
P D B Z T H R E E H S P
Y T B W B R L D N U N L
G S O N K N F G D B O H
T V K I N G P I N R L T
F O B K J Y A S P I E S
J L W W N N C L Z O K F
E S R T W O D U N L Y I

TWO

SPIES

SON

THREE

NUN

KING

Anagram

1. EAIODPTPN–

2. EAERLD –

3. DRIAAF–

4. ENEFOSSDC–

5. CREYM–

6. IMALFY–

7. ECORHIJ–

8. EIRALS–

Anagram

1. EAIODPTPN – APPOINTED
2. EAERLD – LEADER
3. DRIAAF – AFRAID
4. ENEFOSSDC – CONFESSED
5. CREYM – MERCY
6. IMALFY – FAMILY
7. ECORHIJ – JERICHO
8. EIRALS – ISRAEL