

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



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

Old Testament

Rahab and the Spies

Last week we learned that God was angry with Balaam because he was greedy. God used Balaam's donkey to speak to him. Balaam asked God for forgiveness. God forgave Balaam.

Joshua 2

Read the Bible

READ: Joshua 2:1-16 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Memory Verse:

Rahab, the prostitute, 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)

Begin With Prayer

"Knock, knock," came from Rahab's door. She opened the door and saw two men. She knew that they were not from her city, Jericho. She invited them into her home and asked them some questions. She realized that they were God's people. She knew that God was powerful. (Joshua 2:1)

Rahab told them that they could hide out in her house for safety. She found a secret hiding place for them up on top of her flat roof. She covered them with flax (it's like wheat) so that no one would see them. (Joshua 2:6)

Lesson Goals:

1. Understand that Rahab had faith.
2. Learn that Rahab hid the spies on the roof of her home.
3. Understand that the spies agreed to save Rahab and her family.
4. Recognize that God used Rahab to save the spies.

Suddenly, there was another knock at her door. Rahab hurried to the door. It was the king's men! The king was asking about the spies! Rahab quickly told them that they were gone. Whew! She was so relieved when they left. (Joshua 2:2-7)

Rahab ran back up to the roof and talked to the spies. She knew that God was about to let His people have her city, Jericho. Rahab told the spies that all the people were scared of Joshua and God's people. They knew that God was powerful and had helped His people cross the Red Sea and escape slavery. She told them that the warriors were afraid to fight God's people. (Joshua 2:8-11)

Then, she asked them to promise her that God's people would be kind to her since she was kind to them and saved them. The two spies agreed. "Our lives for your lives!" the men assured her. "If you don't tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the LORD gives us the land." (Joshua 2:12-14) The two spies believed that God would give them the land. They promised to save the lives of Rahab and her family members.

Rahab and the Spies — Bible Facts

1. Rahab invited the two spies into her home.
2. Rahab told the spies that their warriors were afraid.
3. Rahab hid the spies and saved them.
4. The spies promised to save Rahab.

Rahab's house was part of the wall that protected the city. There was a small window that was built into the wall. They could escape from the city through the window. She told them to hide for three days and then go on their way. (Joshua 2:15-16)

Rahab lowered the two men down to freedom. She used a red cord to help them escape. They did this and were safe. (Joshua 2:17-24)

Later, God did help His people conquer the city. Rahab was saved because she put the red cord in her window. All of God's army knew that Rahab had helped God and they saved her.

The Bible says that Rahab had faith. Her faith saved her life. (Hebrews 11:31) God wants us to believe so that we can be saved, too. He sent Jesus to die for our sins. Jesus rose from the dead. Because He lives, we can receive forgiveness and eternal life.

Review

1. **Why did Rahab do?** (Rahab invited the spies into her home.)
2. **What did Rahab say?** (Rahab told the spies that their warriors were afraid.)
3. **What else did Rahab do?** (Rahab hid the spies and saved them.)
4. **What did the spies promise?** (The spies promised to save Rahab and her family.)

Do you know Jesus?

We must trust Jesus and ask Him to come into our lives. Jesus wipes away all the sin and gives us a clean heart. (Romans 10:9-10) He changes our lives, too. We become a new person and want to do things God's way instead of our way. (II Corinthians 5:17)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take away our sin.
3. Ask God to help you believe.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to believe.

Application

Rahab had faith. She hid the spies on the roof of her home and saved their lives. The spies agreed to save Rahab and her family. Rahab's faith saved her life and the life of her family members. God wants us to believe and trust Him.

Planning for the next week:

Joshua and Jericho — Joshua 5-6

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Joshua 2:1-16 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: bring a red piece of yarn or string so the kids can see and remember)

“Knock, knock,” came from Rahab’s door. She opened the door and saw two men. She knew that they were not from her city, Jericho. She invited them into her home and asked them some questions. She realized that they were God’s people. She knew that God was powerful.

Rahab told them that they could hide out in her house for safety. She found a secret hiding place for them up on top of her flat roof. She covered them with flax (it’s like wheat) so that no one would see them.

Suddenly, there was another knock at her door. Rahab hurried to the door. It was the king’s men! The king was asking about the spies! Rahab quickly told them that they were gone. Whew! She was so relieved when they left.

She ran back up to the roof and talked to the spies. She knew that God was about to let His people have her city, Jericho. Rahab told the spies that all the people were scared of Joshua and God’s people. They knew that God was powerful and had helped His people cross the Red Sea and escape slavery. She told them that the warriors were afraid to fight God’s people.

Then, she asked them to promise her that God’s people would be kind to her since she was kind to them and saved them. The two spies agreed.

Rahab’s house was part of the wall that protected the city. There was a small window that was built into the wall. They could escape from the city through the window.

Rahab lowered the two men down to freedom. She used a red cord to help them escape. She told them to hide in the hills for three days, then go back home. They did this and were safe. Later, God did help His people conquer the city. Rahab was saved because she put the red cord in her window. All of God’s army knew that Rahab had helped God and they saved her.

Sing a song to the tune of “BINGO.”

There was a girl that God did use and Rahab was her name-o.

R-A-H-A-B, R-A-H-A-B, R-A-H-A-B, and Rahab was her name-o.

(take out a letter each time the song is sung and replace with a clap)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take away our sin.
3. Ask God to help you believe.

Memory verse for younger children:

Rahab... had faith. Hebrews 11:31

Learning Activities

•**Memory verse activity** — Make a red cord like Rahab used. Braid several pieces of red yarn or thread together. Tape the verse on the top or bottom of the cord. Hang the cord out of the window to remind us of God’s forgiveness.

•**Test your memory** — Build a wall out of cardboard and cut out a window. Now, hang a red string/cord out of the window. Bring toys to represent Rahab and the two spies and let the spies drop out of the window,

Bring poster board or use a chalk board. Write down the things that Rahab was not, the things that she had not experienced that the Israelites had (plagues, Red Sea, etc.) Talk about Rahab’s faith as you tell the story. Let the children retell the story.

•**Taste activity** — Munch on red licorice as a reminder of Rahab’s cord.

Flax is similar to wheat. Bring a sample if you can or find something similar.

•**Think about it** — God forgave Rahab for the sins that she had done. He will forgive you if you ask Him. When you ask for forgiveness, God wants you to have a heart that wants to do the right thing and not sin again.

Rahab’s faith saved her life and that of her family. Talk about Rahab’s faith. Talk about how faith in Jesus saves us from sin and gives us eternal life.

•**Touch activity** — Bring a little bottle of disappearing ink. Put it on a white cloth or towel. Share how Jesus can make the dirty sin in our heart disappear. Watch as the spots disappear.

Try writing the verse in a different way with the opposite hand. Talk about how God will forgive our sins.

The spies escaped through a window in the wall. Make pretty window art by tearing pieces of tissue paper and gluing them to a border.

This is a fun story to dramatize. Choose someone to be Rahab, two spies, and the king’s men.

Rahab took in strangers and protected them. Corrie Ten Boom’s family did the same. If possible show the movie or a portion of the movie “The Hiding Place,” about Corrie Ten Boom.

•**Run and play** — Play Hide and seek and remember how Rahab hid the spies.

•**Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to have faith.

•**Sing** — Sing “Only Believe,” “God Is My Refuge,” or another song related to the story.

•**Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take licorice for the children. Give them a copy of the memory verse.

Memory Verse

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

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

Rahab

saved

the

spies

Word Search

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

JERICHO

SPIES

MOSES

RAHAB

HOME

FLAX

ROOF

JOSHUA

CALEB

Word Search

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

JERICHO

SPIES

MOSES

RAHAB

HOME

FLAX

ROOF

JOSHUA

CALEB

Word Search

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

RAHAB

JERICHO

JOSHUA

CALEB

SPIES

SAVED

Word Search

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

RAHAB

JERICHO

JOSHUA

CALEB

SPIES

SAVED

Anagram

AABRH

AFIHT

CDEELMOW

IEPSS

ADEPRS

BEOY

VBEEEIL

UAHJOS

ABCEL

Anagram

RAHAB

FAITH

WELCOMED

SPIES

SPARED

OBEY

BELIEVE

JOSHUA

CALEB