

Dig Deeper @Home – “Island of Misfit Toys”
Complement to lesson on 12/10/23 – “Embracing Enemies”

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. What kind of spying or sneaky games did you enjoy as a child?
2. What event in history would you like to go back and spy on?

MEMORIZE – Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

READ – Read Joshua 2:1-24

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. Re-scan the text and consider...
 - a. What did the Holy Spirit cause to “jump off the page” as you read?
 - b. What are the verses revealing about God? About people?
In light of these, what needs to change in your life? What are you already doing well?
2. Why do you think Rahab decided to be on the side of the Israelites? What was her explanation to the spies? (2:9-11). What did she/the people of Jericho know of the LORD? (Compare Deuteronomy 4:6-7)
3. Describe what you see is at the heart of all that Rahab is saying about the Lord. What does she believe? What stage of faith has she reached? How is she relating to the Lord? In what ways does her faith still seem to need to grow? Consider Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 36:7. What do you think Rahab’s declaration in 2:11b reveals about her? (See Hebrews 11:31)
4. Read Joshua 6:22-25. What was the end result of Rahab's young faith? List those who were saved along with Rahab. How closely was Rahab identified with Israel?
5. Read Matthew 1:1-6. What did Rahab become? How was she rewarded for her faith?
6. Read James 2:20-26. What are the lessons from Abraham’s and Rahab’s examples? In what way should the lifestyle of a believer in Jesus verify their faith?

EXPERIENTIAL ACTIVITY – “I Spy”

Use this activity to discuss ways we can “spy” what God is doing around us. The person who starts, **picks an object that everyone can see.**

Members of the group then get to ask three questions about the object with a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer before they take a guess. The first person to guess correctly gets the next turn to choose an object.

Try several rounds of this activity or until everyone in the group has had a chance to be the “spy”. Then talk about what it might have been like for Rahab to welcome two “spies” into her home. How do you think she saw God in the two “spies”? What did she see that few others in the city were able to see?

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus - <https://youtu.be/vRAFQCOKjgE>

Here, I am to worship - <https://youtu.be/wfJSOpCDgUw>

Come, All you Unfaithful - <https://youtu.be/q8VZf8XK4wM>

Hope has a Name - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI-fTpLINZ8>

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the message:

Almighty God: thank you that even though I am a misfit, I am accepted into your kingdom through Jesus Christ. I ask you for faith to trust you and to find grace to embrace others who may oppose me. Fill me with joy and freedom to share this powerful truth with others where I live, work, study and play.