

II. DEMONSTRATE YOUR FAITH IN ACTION

²⁵ *"Likewise, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out another way?"*

²⁶ *"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."* James 2:25-26

A. Active faith comes by hearing the Word of God.

¹⁷ *"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."* Romans 10:17

⁸ *"Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof,*

⁹ *and said to the men: 'I know that the LORD has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you.*

¹⁰ *For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.'*

¹¹ *And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you..."* Joshua 2:8-11a

B. Active faith comes by knowing the true God.

¹¹ *"... for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and earth beneath."* Joshua 2:11b

III. TRUST GOD TO USE YOU, DESPITE YOUR PAST

Your past doesn't determine your future, your choices do. Rahab made the right choice and God used her. Rahab, the prostitute, became part of Jesus' family tree!!

"Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse," Matthew 1:5

RAHAB: BE STRONG IN FAITH

STRONG WOMEN OF THE BIBLE

Rahab: Strong In Faith Pastor Steve Reynolds

Introduction:

A. Did you know the Bible is full of stories of awesome, strong women? These are strong women who discovered supernatural strength found only in God.

These women were like the women described in Proverbs 31, *"Strength and honor are her clothing"* (Proverbs 31:25a).

B. In the Strong Women Of The Bible Teaching Series we will unveil the story of six strong women. And how these formidable women wielded this power to overcome difficulties and transform lives.

Get ready to EMPOWER your life by applying principles and lessons from STRONG WOMAN OF THE BIBLE.

May 10	Mary: Strong In Obedience
May 17	Jochebed and Amran: Strong In Parenting
TODAY	Rahab: Strong In Faith
May 31	Deborah: Strong In Leadership
June 7	Ruth: Strong In Love
June 14	Esther: Strong In Courage

TEXT: Joshua 2:1-24

Rahab is one of three women included in the "Hall Of Faith" in Hebrews chapter eleven:

"By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace." Hebrews 11:31

HOW TO BE STRONG IN FAITH

- Rahab's worldly past.

¹ "Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, 'Go, view the land, especially Jericho.'" So they went, and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab, and lodged there.'" Joshua 2:1

¹⁸ "knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Peter 1:18-19

Rahab was a prostitute.

- Rahab's wise choice.

³ "So the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying, 'Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country.'

⁴ Then the woman took the two men and hid them. So she said, 'Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from.'

⁵ And it happened as the gate was being shut, when it was dark, that the men went out. Where the men went I do not know; pursue them quickly, for you may overtake them."

⁶ (But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order on the roof.)" Joshua 2:3-6

Rahab chose to protect the two spies.

- Rahab's wonderful reward.

¹⁴ "So, the men answered her, 'Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours. And it shall be, when the LORD has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you.'" Joshua 2:14

Rahab and her family got to live when the Israelites conquered Jericho.

I. BELIEVE GOD WILL SAVE YOU

³¹ "By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace."

Hebrews 11:31

A. Salvation is available for everyone.

Five times the Bible mentions Rahab's occupation as a prostitute (Joshua 2:1, 6:17, 6:25, Hebrews 11:31 and James 2:25). The bottom line is she traded sex for money.

¹² "Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the LORD, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house, and give me a true token,

¹³ and spare my father, my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, and deliver our lives from death."

Joshua 2:12-13

³ "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." I Timothy 2:3-4

B. Salvation is through the blood of Jesus.

¹⁷ "So the men said to her: 'We will be blameless of this oath of yours which you have made us swear,

¹⁸ unless, when we come into the land, you bind this line of scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you bring your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father's household to your own home.'" Joshua 2:17-18

¹⁸ "knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers,

¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Peter 1:18-19