

New Ground: Diversity and Unity

Joshua 2

Even when everything is new, we can find our self facing the same old problems. Today we're looking at the life of Joshua to see how to step into a new place with the support of a diverse community.

Joshua 2:1

Joshua son of Nun sent two spies out from Shittim secretly and instructed them: "Find out what you can about the land, especially Jericho." They stopped at the house of a prostitute named Rahab and spent the night there.

Joshua 2:4

But the woman hid the two men and replied, "Yes, these men were clients of mine, but I didn't know where they came from.

Joshua 2:9-11

She said to the men, "I know the Lord is handing this land over to you. We are absolutely terrified of you, and all who live in the land are cringing before you... For the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on earth below!"

Background // God's Greatness

Joshua 2:4-5

But the woman hid the two men and replied, "Yes, these men were clients of mine, but I didn't know where they came from... Chase after them quickly, for you have time to catch them!"

John Calvin, Pastor & Theologian

It has often happened, that even when good men have endeavored to keep a straight course, they have turned aside into circuitous paths... although God wished the spies to be delivered, He did not sanction their being protected by a lie.

Joshua 2:12-14

So now, promise me this with an oath sworn in the Lord's name. Because I have shown allegiance to you, show allegiance to my family. Give me a solemn pledge that you will spare the lives of my father, mother, brothers, sisters, and all who belong to them, and rescue us from death."

The men said to her, "If you die, may we die too! If you do not report what we've been up to, then, when the Lord hands the land over to us, we will show unswerving allegiance to you."

Hebrews 11:31

By faith Rahab the prostitute escaped the destruction of the disobedient, because she welcomed the spies in peace.

Behavior // God's Deliverance

Joshua 2:18

When we invade the land, tie this red rope in the window through which you let us down, and gather together in your house your father, mother, brothers, and all who live in your father's house.

Joshua 2:23

Then the two men returned—they came down from the hills, crossed the river, came to Joshua son of Nun, and reported to him all they had discovered.

- Diverse People
- Increase Perspective
- Decrease Pride

Matthew 1:1-6

This is the record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac... Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz (by Rahab)... and Jesse the father of David the king.