

## For Our Information

Theresa LaValla and John 2nd are visiting relatives in MS this weekend.

Most of our recent sick folks are doing much better, but several are still dealing with some lingering effects.

Also remember that many have ongoing health issues to deal with everyday.

Remember one another in your prayer to the Father.

## Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

harlot (**Hebrews 11:31**). She was an immoral woman. But that is not who she continued to be. That may have been how she started. But it is not how she finished.

God can see the full potential in people. He is able to redeem us from any and every sin. If He can do that with a prostitute, what makes you think your past disqualifies you from service in His kingdom? If you got off to a bad start, it doesn't mean you can't finish the race. But you best get going.

*"By faith Rahab the harlot did not perish along with those who were disobedient, after she had welcomed the spies in peace" (**Hebrews 11:31**).* Thus a former prostitute found her place among the people of God and received mention in His book for all generations. With Him, she overcame and became a worthwhile and worthy woman. Likewise, let Him have His way with you.

# Seeking His Righteousness

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## A Woman Worthy Of Rescue Bubba Garner

Moses was dead. He had led the Israelites from the land of Egypt to the banks of the Jordan River, but that was as far as he could take them. The reins of leadership were passed to his servant, Joshua, who was charged with the responsibility of conquering the land sworn to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. And just so there would be no period of uncertainty or instability in the transfer of administrations, the Lord assured Joshua, *"As I have been with Moses, I will be with you ... be strong and courageous"* (**Joshua 1:5-6**). There was no need for fear.

So, what was one of the first duties



*For just as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.*

**James 2:26**



## Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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performed by the new commander-in-chief? *"Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men as spies secretly from Shittim, saying, 'Go, view the land, especially Jericho'"* (**Joshua 2:1**). Why bother? God had already promised to give him *"every place on which the sole of your foot treads"* (**Joshua 1:3**). Why risk the lives of these two men and go to the trouble of spying out a city where the Lord had guaranteed victory? Perhaps it was because God saw in the vast wickedness of Jericho one woman who had faith, one soul He wanted to rescue before the walls came tumbling down. The woman just happened to be Rahab, the town harlot.

## Sin Sticks

Rahab the harlot. That's how she is known. That's how she is remembered. While some commentators have tried to soften her situation by saying that she was merely an innkeeper, the other references that mention her use that same description of immorality: *"Rahab the harlot"* (**Joshua 6:25; Hebrews 11:31**). Later, since she married Salmon, one of the princes of Judah, and lived among the people of Israel, we can presume she left that lifestyle and served God the rest of her days. But still, we refer to her as Rahab the harlot.

Reputations are easy to come by, difficult to come out of. Even when we have put our past behind us, we can still carry around the memory of where we've been. That means we best think carefully before making our decisions. Some choices affect what happens right now, but many of them have consequences that last far into the future. How do we want to be remembered? Don't forget that sin sticks.

## Store In My Heart

### Nehemiah 2:5

I said to the king, "If it please the king, and if your servant has found favor before you, send me to Judah, to the city of my fathers' tombs, that I may rebuild it."

Nehemiah heard of the condition of Jerusalem and he decided to rebuild the broken city.

The book of Nehemiah is a record of how he went about reaching that goal. In doing this work, he not only rebuilt the wall but helped to restore the people to a people of God once again.

This story should impress us with a desire to take action when we see work that needs to be done. Only service to God is guaranteed to bring reward. Though we see it as a story of renewal, it is a story of service.

## Faith Without Works Won't Work

Rahab knew the history behind the people camped on Jordan's banks. When she and the other citizens of Jericho heard what wonders God was working among the Israelites, she told the spies, *"our hearts melted and no courage remained...for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath"* (**Joshua 2:11**). Rahab was not the only one with access to this information. But she was the only one who did something with it.

Real faith cannot stand still. Rahab is mentioned in **James 2** as an illustration that *"faith without works is dead."* *"Was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way"* (**James 2:25**)? That's what separated her from her countrymen. She had heard what God had done for Israel, yet she chose not to be a forgetful hearer, but an effectual doer. The one who knows the right thing to do and does not do it is just as bad as the one who doesn't know at all (**James 4:17**). Faith without works won't work. It is no faith at all.

## How You Start Is Not As Important As How You Finish

Rahab the harlot ultimately found herself in good company. She and Salmon bore a son, Boaz, who married Ruth, who became the great-grandmother of David (**Ruth 4:18-22**). That means she is also listed in the lineage of Christ (**Matthew 1:5**). And she is mentioned in **Hebrews 11** alongside the ancient heroes of faith: Enoch who walked with God, Moses, who knew the Lord face to face, and Rahab, the