

BIG IDEA

Those who look become those who participate.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Share a story about a time when you knew something was going to happen before others did. How did you know? What did you do?

Read Joshua 2 and Joshua 6:24-25 in order to understand Rahab's full story.

What do you notice about her behavior?

Rahab is someone who sees what God is up to and decides to act based on what she sees. Her decision to hide the spies was based on her awareness of God's movement. She continued to behave in line with her beliefs, by helping the spies, advocating for her family, and abiding by the conditions of the agreement she made with the spies.

What risks were involved with Rahab's choice to put her faith in the God of the Israelites? What did she gain?

Rahab could have been put to death for treason. She risked her life in order to participate with God in this story. Because of her brave actions, her entire family was spared from the destruction that came to Jericho and she was incorporated into the people of God.

Compare and contrast Rahab's faith with Israel's faith as a nation. In what ways did she see God more clearly than the people of Israel?

The nation of Israel seems to operate out of a lack of trust toward God. They had difficulty seeing the gravity of what God was doing in their midst and often lived out of fear and complaining. Rahab saw the mighty work of God in the land and understood that he was the God of heaven and earth. She decided to give her allegiance to him in spite of her culture and religious disposition.

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Does it surprise you that God invites people like Rahab to participate in his saving work in the world?

Read Matthew 13:13-16. How do Jesus' words impact you, specifically?

When is the last time you felt as if you were participating with God?

This question is a strong tie-in to this week's message. Hopefully, members of your group have been wrestling with this question. Ask your group this question in order to create an opportunity for those people to process what they have been thinking.

Read 2 Kings 6: 8-17. Who do you identify with more in this passage: Elisha or Elisha's servant?





LIFE GROUPS

LEADER GUIDE

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Be honest. How do you spend the majority of your spiritual energy: looking for God or managing your image? How can you tell?

Where in your life have you been hearing but not understanding, seeing but not perceiving?

We can attend church, participate in life groups, read our Bibles and pray—all without really understanding what God is up to in our lives.

What are some practical steps you could take that would help you to “open your eyes” to what God is doing in your midst?

Rahab saw what God was doing because she welcomed foreigners in and provided them with safety. Sometimes, we are most in tune with what God is doing when we are looking for ways to love and serve others well.

End your group with a time of listening prayer. Ask God to answer the following two questions as you listen quietly:

Where is my place?

Who are my people?

Listening prayer is challenging because it makes us quiet our minds and wait to hear what God might be saying to us. Lead the group in this activity by praying aloud first. You might pray something like:

Dear Lord,

Sometimes it can be so hard to see you clearly. We want to become people who hear your voice and see you at work in every situation. Please help us to listen for your voice as we pray tonight. We want to understand the way you are inviting us to participate in your kingdom.

Lord, please speak to us and help us to answer the question: Where is my place?

Pause for 30- 60 seconds before continuing the prayer:

Lord, please continue to soften our hearts. Who are my people?

End your prayer time thanking God for his presence. Allow time for anyone in your group to share about their experience.

