

CBC's Women's Ministry Bible Study
TWELVE EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN by John MacArthur
CHAPTER 3 - *Rahab: A Horrible Life Redeemed (Matthew 1:5-6)*

After reading chapter three, please respond to each item in preparation for group discussion:

1. Why does John MacArthur characterize Rahab's life as "horrible"?
2. Rahab lived in Jerico at the time the Amorites were ripe for God's judgment. He used the Israelites who were being led by Joshua to take possession of their promised land after 39 years of wandering in the desert. Joshua's method of spying out the land was purposely different from Moses'. Explain the wisdom in this. (See Numbers 13:25-14:38)
3. What things impressed you most about the story of Rahab's encounter with the spies?
4. How do we know she came to faith in God suddenly and surely?
5. Was the fact that Rahab used a lie to protect the spies from the king's messengers dealt with as a moral failure in this account? Why do you suppose this is?
6. From Joshua 2:8-14, what does Rahab seem to "know" about the LORD? With this knowledge, what was she emboldened to ask of the spies in return for her kindness to them?
7. What are your thoughts about MacArthur's discussion of the meaning of the scarlet chord? (For similar references see Exodus 26:14, Leviticus 14:4, Matthew 27:28, Hebrews 9:19)
8. What did God do to make clear to everyone in Canaan that He was fighting for Israel?

9. After the account of her rescue Rahab is not mentioned again in the Old Testament. However, the New Testament makes what reference to Rahab in Jesus Christ's genealogy? Why is this remarkable?

10. For what does the New Testament honor Rahab? Please cite the scriptures.

11. Discuss how the lineage of Christ has a "scandal motif" that has been a stumbling block to some and incredible encouragement to others?

"Salmon begot Boaz by Rahab, Boaz begot Obed by Ruth, Obed begot Jesse, and Jesse begot David the king." Matthew 1:5-6 NKJV