

## Bearing Christmas - Carry Hope

### Small Group Questions: Part 1: What Would Grandma Rahab Say to Me this Christmas?

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#### Read

Matthew 1:1, Matthew 1:5, Joshua 2

#### Reflect

Rahab, known to the world as a prostitute, obeys God when she agrees to hide and protect two Israelite spies. Her obedience to help God's people, proved her faith in the Lord, and he, in turn, saved the lives of her and her family. In what ways do you sense God wants to change your story? Are you willing to say yes to walking in obedience to him?

Josh and Lisa Surratt highlight three ways that we can join God as he redeems our story.

1. You are never too far from God for Him to Find you, Look for Him.  
Rahab was in the most unlikely place to be used by God. She was not someone known for hospitality, or purity, but God saw her as a vessel to save His people.
  - a. Have you believed the lie that you are too far from God?
  - b. Why do we often believe that God can not use us for His good?
  - c. What distracts you from looking for God in your life?
  - d. How have you encouraged someone to look for God, when he/she thinks they are too far from God?
  
2. God invites you to be a part of His story - Join Him.  
Rahab tells four different lies to protect God's people of Israel. She decided to be a part of God's story, rather than in the one she was currently living.
  - a. How have you seen God move powerfully in your life? Will you choose to respond to his power?
  - b. How are you resisting what God is doing in your life? What is holding you back?
  - c. What area of your life do you need to join God with what he is doing in your life?
  
3. God redeemed my story, give Him a chance to redeem yours.  
Rahab had no idea when she was living in those broken moments, that God could do something beautiful with her life. She didn't understand how God could redeem her story until she was obedient to his will.
  - a. What are you holding on to in your past, that you need to give to God, so he can redeem your story?
  - b. What are some ways that you can respond with obedience in your life right now?
  - c. Rahab hung a scarlet cord in her window as a symbol of her faith in the Lord. This was ultimately what would identify her as a person of God, and the lives of her and her family would be spared. If you hung a scarlet cord in your window, what reminders of God's promises would fill your heart each day?