

An Unlikely Host

We will all find ourselves in circumstances beyond our control where the one prevailing sensation will be the need to hide.

Where we choose to hide makes all the difference in the world!

Geico commercial <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Znr8UtvvlzM>

Proverbs 18:10

¹⁰The name of the Lord is a strong tower; The righteous runs into it and is safe.

Joshua and the 2 spies

Joshua 2:1-7, 8-13, 23-24

2 Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men as spies secretly from Shittim, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and came into the house of a harlot whose name was Rahab, and lodged there. ²It was told the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men from the sons of Israel have come here tonight to search out the land." ³And the king of Jericho sent *word* to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the land." ⁴But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them, and she said, "Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they were from. ⁵It came about when *it was time* to shut the gate at dark, that the men went out; I do not know where the men went. Pursue them quickly, for you will overtake them." ⁶But she had brought them up to the roof and hidden them in the stalks of flax which she had laid in order on the roof. ⁷So the men pursued them on the road to the Jordan to the fords; and as soon as those who were pursuing them had gone out, they shut the gate.

This inn, a house of prostitution, became a refuge for these men. Rahab, as their host, risked her life for their well-being.

What would compel this woman to risk losing everything, including her own life, to help these complete strangers?

⁸Now before they lay down, she came up to them on the roof, ⁹and said to the men, "I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have melted away before you. ¹⁰For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. ¹¹When we heard *it*, our hearts melted and no courage remained in any man any longer because of you; for the Lord your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath. ¹²Now therefore, please swear to me by the Lord, since I have dealt kindly with you, that you also will deal kindly with my father's household, and give me a pledge of truth, ¹³and spare my father and my mother and my brothers and my sisters, with all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death."

Rahab, the least likely host of all, had a message of faith to give these men, and it was vitally important that it was delivered!

Faith edifies (builds up), but fear, which grips us all to varying degrees, cripples and immobilizes us.

24 hours of hospitality in the least likely home, with the least likely host, changed the course of a nation.

²³Then the two men returned and came down from the hill country and crossed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun, and they related to him all that had happened to them. ²⁴They said to Joshua, "Surely the Lord has given all the land into our hands; moreover, all the inhabitants of the land have melted away before us."

Joshua 3:5-6

⁵Then Joshua said to the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you." ⁶And Joshua spoke to the priests, saying, "Take up the ark of the covenant and cross over ahead of the people." So they took up the ark of the covenant and went ahead of the people.

Gospel House Key story

Israel went on to conquer the promised land, receiving their inheritance from God. Rahab was in the line of Christ!

Ephesians 5:1-2

⁵ Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ² and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.