



HEROES OF THE FAITH



THIS PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

There are many stories in the bible of men and women putting their faith into action and achieving great things for God. In this program, we are learning about some of these 'heroes of the faith' listed in Hebrews 11. Our heart is that kids will see the many ways they can activate their faith in their lives, learning from these great men and women who have gone before us. Faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. We don't trust our feelings, or what the circumstance looks like - instead we have faith in God!

Our Repeated phrase is: In this program we are looking at heroes in the bible who stepped out in faith, so we can be encouraged to do the same.

Memory Verse: "Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see"- Hebrews 11:1

WEEK 5: RAHAB

Faith stands with God. We see this in the life of Rahab. Even though Rahab was living a sinful life, with sinful people she chose to acknowledge God as the true, living God. She did something brave by protecting the two spies. Rahab's act of faith to stand with God was so significant that she became part of the family of Jesus! Jesus came into the world through her lineage. Rahab and her family were also saved from being destroyed because of her faith. **Faith stands up for God!**

RESOURCES

- A ball for the game
- Optional picture of a skydiver for the illustration
- Wk 5 Connect worksheet, bible and colouring pencils for connect group

PREACH OUTLINE

Story: Share the story of Rahab - through her faith she sides with God over the sinful people she was a part of. Through the story show that faith stands up for God even if you are the only person willing to follow Him. Rahab was saved, just like our faith saves us.

Points to hit:

1. **Faith believes God** -Rahab heard of God and so did her people, the difference was that Rahab chose to respect God and chose to side with him where her people chose not to believe. Faith comes from hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17, Joshua 2:10, Hebrews 11:31). They all heard the same stories of God and had the same opportunity yet Rahab responded to God.
2. **Faith stands up for God** -Rahab demonstrates this and stands up for God by putting her faith into action. Standing up and following God is not popular. Jesus said 'the gate is small and the way is narrow that leads to life, and there are few who find it.' (Mt. 7:14). The reward for Rahab is salvation! Can you be brave and stand up for God, too?
3. **Faith in God saves us** - Just like Rahab did not perish with those who didn't believe, if we put our faith in Jesus, we are saved too! When we become followers of Jesus, we are born again and God gives us a new heart. He also sends us the Holy Spirit to help us connect with God and know with confidence in our hearts that we are saved (Ezekial 36:26-27, Romans 8:16).

ILLUSTRATION IDEA

Use a picture of a skydiver. What would happen if you jumped out a plane without a parachute? Jericho had heard that they were in trouble and the Israelites were coming, but they did nothing to save themselves, except for Rahab. Rahab took the 'parachute' by believing that the Israelites served the living God and choosing to help them. This saved her! It's the same way with us and God, we know He is the living God so we need to take a hold of Him by inviting him into our heart and choosing to follow him as our king. (Joshua 2:8-14)

CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS

Connect groups are a time to build friendships and engage kids in discussion about the preach. Remember to keep it fun and to pray!

1. How was Rahab brave in our story?
2. Why did she protect the spies?
3. What happened to Rahab as a result of her bravery?
4. Have you ever found it hard to stand up for God - by not hiding that you go to church and believe in Jesus?
5. What are some ways that we can be brave as we follow God and believe in Him?

GAME: SILENT BALL

You need to be silent as a mouse and quick as a cat in this game!

1. Explain to the kids that in this game, from the moment you say 'silent ball' they cannot utter a word or they are out!
2. Have the kids spread out and pick a spot in the room.
3. The aim of the game is to catch the ball and throw it to another player without dropping it. You cannot throw back to the person who threw the ball to you, you can only throw underarm, you can only move one foot to catch the ball (stay in your spot) and if it is a 'bad throw' (doesn't reach the person etc.) you are out. Once you are 'out' you sit down.
4. Say 'silent ball' and the game begins. The last two people can battle it out by coming to the front and spinning before they catch the ball.