

From Outsider to Overcomer — Pastor Carolyn Shuttlesworth

Unshakable Women's Bible Study

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A 5 Day Devotional on Rahab:

Theme: Faith in God has the power to rewrite your story and redeem generations—no matter what's in your past.

Key Verse: *"It was by faith that Rahab the prostitute was not destroyed with the people in her city who refused to obey God. For she had given a friendly welcome to the spies."* – Hebrews 11:31 (NLT)

Day 1: God Sees Beyond Your Past

Scripture: *"Then Joshua secretly sent out two spies from the Israelite camp at Acacia Grove. He instructed them, 'Scout out the land on the other side of the Jordan River, especially around Jericho.' So the two men set out and came to the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there that night."* – Joshua 2:1 (NLT)

Devotional Thought:

Rahab was known by her label — a prostitute — but God saw her potential. **While others saw sin, God saw faith.** You *have to* remember it only matters how the Lord sees you. Her story should remind you that God delights in rewriting what sounds like a messy story and redeeming what others have counted out. No one is too far from his grace and the love of Jesus. You're never too far to start a new book in Jesus. Forget new chapters in life. Life with Jesus gives you a whole new book of life!

Reflection Questions:

What labels or failures from your past do you need to surrender so God can rewrite your story? Is there anything you still need to let go of to move forward in your faith walk?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for seeing beyond my past and calling me by my faith, not my failures. As I do what your Word says and renew my mind daily you are redeeming every part of my story for your glory.

Day 2: Bold Faith Requires Risk

Scripture: *“Rahab had hidden the two men, but she replied, ‘Yes, the men were here earlier, but I didn’t know where they were from.’”* – Joshua 2:4 (NLT)

Devotional Thought:

Rahab risked her life by protecting the spies. **Her faith moved her to action before she saw the miracle.** True faith often calls you to take bold steps even when you can’t see how things will turn out. Courage is faith in motion.

Reflection Question:

Everyone has been in your position. Where is God calling me to take a bold step of obedience even though it feels risky?

Prayer:

Jesus, give me the courage to step out in faith when I feel unsure. Your ask is to benefit my life and show that I trust your every word. I trust that you are already working on my behalf. Your Word says in Psalm 119:105 that the Holy Bible is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. You only lead me to good things. I will be a listener and doer of your Word. (James 1:22)

Day 3: God Honors Faith, Not Titles

Scripture: *“Now swear to me by the Lord that you will be kind to me and my family since I have helped you. Give me some guarantee that when Jericho is conquered, you will let me live.”* – Joshua 2:12–13 (NLT)

Devotional Thought:

Rahab didn’t come from a noble background, but her heart for God set her apart. **Heaven celebrates faith, not reputation.** God uses those who believe him enough to act — no matter their past or position.

Reflection Question:

Really ask yourself this — Do I sometimes disqualify myself from God’s purposes because of my background or insecurities?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you that you look at my heart, not my history. Help me to walk boldly in the purpose you’ve called me to. Because you have called me, you have equipped me. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

Day 4: Covered by the Scarlet Cord

Scripture: *“We will be bound by the oath we have taken only if you follow these instructions. When we come into the land, you must leave this scarlet rope hanging from the window.”* – Joshua 2:17–18 (NLT)

Devotional Thought:

The scarlet cord hanging from Rahab’s window symbolized her covenant of protection — and prophetically pointed to the blood of Jesus. **The same way her family was saved through that cord, you are saved through the covering of Christ’s blood.** His grace always makes a way. His grace empowers you to live free from sin. The Blood of Jesus gives me direct access. I don’t have to be put on hold. It’s the VIP ticket to Jesus. Through the Blood I have permission to receive healing, deliverance, peace, and every good gift from my Heavenly Father!! That is worth a shout!

Reflection Question:

How does the blood of Jesus remind me that I am covered, forgiven, and protected today?

Prayer:

Thank You, Jesus, for the blood that covers me and my family. I will never take it for granted. I will access my benefits package you have for me through the Blood of Jesus.

Day 5: A Redeemed Legacy

Scripture: *“Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse. Jesse was the father of King David.”* – Matthew 1:5–6 (NLT)

Devotional Thought:

Rahab’s story didn’t end with her rescue — it continued into the lineage of Jesus Christ. **Her faith changed generations.** God can take what you call broken and turn it into a legacy of grace and redemption. What began in shame ended in purpose. Rahab was transformed from disrespected in a pagan land to revered in God’s community. She made it into Christ’s genealogy.

Reflection Question:

How might my faith today influence future generations in my family and community?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for redeeming my story and using it for your glory. Let my faith leave a legacy that points others to you. You forgot my past. I will forget my past. My focus is on your Word and what you have for my life. I will step out in faith!