

Bible Discovery

God helps us be brave! (*We're brave!*) Hold up a Bible. **Today our Bible story tells about a woman named Rahab who had to be very brave. She helped God's people, the Israelites.**

- Get comfy and sit in knee-to-knee circles with Connect Crews.
- ❓ **Tell about a time you were brave.** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

When we're scared, God helps us be brave. (*We're brave!*) **God knows there are times we feel afraid, and that's one reason he always sticks with us.**

- Have everyone clasp their hands together and say, "Thanks, God!"

Our Bible story really starts with Joshua, who was the leader of God's people. God wanted his people to take over a place called Jericho, but there were already people living there. Hmm. And the people who lived in Jericho didn't like God's people. So Joshua sent two spies to check out Jericho. Spies are people who sneak around to find out information.

- Have everyone pretend to be sneaky spies and silently tiptoe in a circle and look all around, then sit down again in knee-to-knee circles.
- ❓ **Tell about a time you explored a new place.** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Have Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Well, Joshua's spies set out on their spy mission. Whew! Wipe brow. And look! Point in front of you. There's Jericho!

- Have everyone move with you to sit in a new part of the room.

Once they were in Jericho, the spies met a woman named Rahab. She lived there, and she knew the men were spies. Just talking to them could get her in big trouble. That was scary!

- ❓ **Have you ever gotten in trouble for talking? What happened?** Invite a few responses from the whole group.

Hmm...what should Rahab do?

- Have everyone rub their chin like they're thinking.

The king of Jericho knew spies were in town, and he was looking for them. The king sent his soldiers to talk to Rahab. They wanted to know where the spies were! Put hands on hips.

- Have everyone pretend to be soldiers by stamping their feet while looking very stern.

Supplies

- Bible
- "Rahab Helps the Israelite Spies" Bible Story poster
- long, red crepe paper streamers (1 per Crew)

We call helpers Crew Guides. If you lead a small class, you can be the Crew Guide. Simply gather kids in a cozy circle around you. If you have helpers, form smaller groups so each child can be known—and so kids can befriend your helpers, too!

Welcome a few responses. Be sure to summarize what kids say so everyone can hear.



Read the verses from the Bible. You're showing kids that God's Word is special. And don't worry; we've kept the verses short for young attention spans.

Here's what the Bible tells us Rahab did.



Read aloud Joshua 2:4-6.

Show the Bible Story poster. Have kids find the spies and then identify Rahab and the king's men.

- **Rahab hid the spies from the king! She hid them on her roof under some branches.**
- Have kids huddle up while Crew Guides pretend to cover them with branches.

God helps us be brave. *(We're brave!)* **The spies had to hide and wait—shh!—until the king's soldiers were gone.**

- Have everyone wait in silence while you count to 10 in a whisper.

Let's read what happened next!



Read aloud Joshua 2:7.

Whew! The king's soldiers were gone. When it was safe, Rahab went to talk with the spies.

- Have Crew Guides pretend to uncover kids, then circle up with Crews to talk again.



Rahab told the spies about her fears. She had heard about their powerful God who had helped them come to Jericho safely. She wanted God to help her, too. So she asked a brave question.

 Read aloud Joshua 2:11-13.

Rahab knew God would help his people—not the king of Jericho. She wanted the one true God to help her, too! **God helps us be brave.** (*We're brave!*) Rahab asked the spies to promise to help her family when they came back, and the spies promised.

- Have everyone hold one hand over their heart and one hand up as if making a promise.

Then Rahab helped the spies escape. Have everyone stand up and get ready to go back to where they started.

Rahab found a red rope for them to use to climb out her window. Let's use red streamers to get back to our spots.

- Give each Crew Guide a red streamer.
- Have Crew Guides help kids all hold on to a streamer as they are led back to their original seats.

Rahab had bravely helped the spies!

- Have Crews all hold on to their streamers and wave them up and down to celebrate and then place the streamers over their Crew Guides' shoulders.
- **When have you helped someone?** Invite Crew Guides to share first.
- Crew Guides give thumbs-up when everyone has shared.

Motion to a Crew Guide's streamer. **Rahab left the red rope hanging from her window so God's people could find her again and keep her family safe when they came back. And guess what! They kept their promise! They kept Rahab and her family safe when God's people came to Jericho.**

Rahab knew God would help his people. Even though she may have been scared, she made a brave choice by hiding the spies and asking for their help. When we feel scared, we can trust God because God helps us be brave.
(*We're brave!*)



Now's a great time for Apply-It Options. Choose one or more that fit your time frame to support today's Bible discoveries before the closing Goodbye Circle.