

# Messy People

## Session 1: Rahab—Changing your messy story

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*“This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone, and new life has begun.” II Corinthians 5:17*

*“And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.” Philippians 1:6*

**In the hands of God, our messes can become masterpieces. God chooses to love and use messy people**

Paul knew what he was talking about when he wrote to the early Christians about God’s transforming grace and love.

Acts 9:1-27 Saul to Paul!

What jump out at you when you read/hear this story?

### **Rahab’s messy story**

*“Then Joshua sent out two spies from the Israelite camp Acacia Camp. 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 name Rahab and stayed there that night.” Joshua 2:1*

Rahab’s situation

Read Joshua 2:2-11

What was messy about Rahab’s story?

Rahab’s faith

Rahab’s action

God’s response to Rahab -- Joshua 6:22-25

Why do you think the story of Rahab is recorded in the Bible?

Read II Timothy 3:16-17

**Main point: The God of the universe chooses to use people with damaged reputations, broken hearts and sinful pasts – and that is good news for all of us!**

The woman caught in adultery -- John 8:1-11

The woman at the well – John 4

Each messy person had a label!

Have you ever been labeled? How did it make you feel about those who labeled you? How did it make you feel about yourself?

### **Chosen by God**

Read the verses below, and write your name in the blanks:

*Even before he made the world, God loved \_\_\_\_\_ and chose \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. Eph. 1:4*

*You did chose me, but I chose \_\_\_\_\_ and appointed \_\_\_\_\_ so that \_\_\_\_\_ might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever \_\_\_\_\_ ask(s) in my name the Father will give \_\_\_\_\_. John 15:16*

What do these scriptures teach you about God’s view of you?

Read I Samuel 16:7.

*“But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The LORD does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”*

How does God see you?

As you look in the mirror each morning, reflect on I Peter 2:9

*“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.”*

### **Rehab’s place in history—a royal lineage**

*“Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was **Rahab**, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David.” Matthew 1:5-6*

New identification for Rahab – the great-great grandmother of King David.

*“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit”  
Isaiah 11:1*

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# The Exodus From Egypt



