

## **6. RAHAB**

### **BACK A WINNER**

#### **Joshua 6:25**

**'... and she lives among the Israelites to this day'**

The story of Rahab is about someone who changes sides and backs the winning team. Her city is about to be invaded by the Israelites. She senses that the God of the Israelites is more powerful than the gods of her own people. So, when the opportunity presents itself, she switches sides and does a deal with the enemy.

The strange thing is that she is commended for doing this. She gets accepted into the nation of Israel as one of God's people. This is despite being a pagan, a traitor to her own people and a prostitute!

No-one plans to become a prostitute! It's not a top career. It's degrading and it's dehumanising. It's something people are driven into when all their options have gone.

Rahab was a woman with no options.

Why should she be loyal to a society whose god's had degraded and dehumanised her? Rahab can see that this society was about to come crashing down. She wanted to get out while she still could. This was not noble and it was not honourable. This was simply pragmatic. However, in recognising the God of Israel as the true and living God, she was being more than pragmatic. She was exercising faith! (Hebrews 11:31).

In Matthew's Gospel, chapter 1, we find that Rahab is in the family line of Jesus. Against everything we might expect, this woman, 'with a past', becomes the sole channel of God's salvation in her generation.

Have your options run out? Do you feel like you're on the wrong side? It's never too late to back a winner. It's never too late to turn to God.

***Forget the past, God's got high hopes for your future***