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God's Plan – Rahab & the Spies

"God Rescues Those Who Trust Him"

OPENING:

Today we're going to hear a story about a time the Israelites needed help, and it came from a very unlikely person. We'll also learn that God **rescues those who trust in Him.**

We will focus on:

- **How God has a plan.**
- **How we should help God's people.**
- **That God's grace is for everyone.**

God gave the Israelites a big job. They were about to enter the Promised Land, but first they had to drive out the other nations currently living there. They were about to face some fierce enemies, and at times it may have seemed impossible that they would succeed. ***But God was with them, and He would keep His promise to His people.*** As long as the Israelites trusted God, they would not fail.

Joshua is the new leader for the Israelites. After wandering in the desert for 40 years it is finally time for the Israelites to enter the land God promised them. Joshua is beginning his preparations:

Just as Moses had sent Joshua into Canaan to check out the land, Joshua sends two men to spy on the city of Jericho. Before they are ready to be attacked, he wanted to know about the city, the people, and their defenses. So, he set up a "spy mission".

Read: "The Roof of Rahab" from the Action Bible.

You may also read Joshua 2 for more details in the story.

Discussion:

Rahab:

- Rahab was a woman who lived in Jericho and played a vital role in God's plan. Despite Rahab's past life, God showed her great love and grace.
- Her life had not been perfect and she had done things that were not pleasing to God.
- But, while the people of Jericho knew about the mighty acts of God, and they knew that the Israelites were God's chosen people, they continued sinning by worshipping false gods.
- Everyone except Rahab. She knew in her heart that God was the one true God and He alone deserves worship.
- Rahab showed her trust in God when she chose to help the spies. She knew about the miracles God had done for the Israelites and she believed God was the one true God.
- She was brave and courageous.

Talk about: *How we all make mistakes sometimes, and do things that do not make God happy, just like Rahab did in her past. But God's love and grace is so amazing that He gives us a 2nd chance. *(and a 3rd, and a 4th and so on.....)*

God's Grace:

- Even though Rahab had done bad things, God showed her grace because she trusted and believed in Him.
- Her family would be protected and later she would be a part of Jesus' family.
- Even though she wasn't an Israelite, God welcomed her into His family because of her faith. Not only that, but she was the great- great- great- grandmother of Jesus! You see God's plan of salvation wouldn't be just for the people of Israel. God loves people from every nation and wants to bring us all close to Him. And just like Rahab, anyone who trusts God and has faith in His Son Jesus is saved!

Remember – Rahab asks the spies to spare her and her family when the Israelites come to attack Jericho. They told her to tie a red cord to her window. (just like the one she uses to drop the spies from her roof). The Red Cord will signal the Israelites to not harm anyone in that house. Just like the Red Cord keeps Rahab's family safe, Jesus keeps us safe. Interesting how the rope was red. What do you think that represents?

Grace: When God gives us something we don't deserve.

- God's
- Riches
- At
- Christ's
- Expense

Discussion:

Take some time to give the kids a chance to share when something wrong was done to them or they did something wrong and were granted forgiveness or blessed when they probably didn't deserve it.

God's Plan:

The spies sneak into Jericho only to find out the King knows they are there and has his men looking for them! They probably thought their mission was a bust! That they had failed!

But God.... God used what seemed like a failure to the Israelite spies as a time to use and save Rahab's family! Had things gone smoothly for the spies, Rahab would not have had to hide them and show her faith and trust in God!

- You never know what God is going to do when plans don't go the way you thought they should.
- Give the kids a chance to talk about this and share when things didn't go as they planned, but turned out even better. He can turn our failures into something good!

Let's see what you remember from the story:

- What was the main point from our lesson? (God rescues those who trust in Him.)
- Why did Joshua send spies into Jericho? (To gather information about the city.)
- Who helped the spies? (Rahab)
- Why did Rahab help them? (She believed that God was the one true God)
- What made Rahab believe that God was the one true God? (She had heard about the things God had done for the Israelites.)

Prayer:

Dear God,

*Thank you for speaking to us through the story of Rahab today. We praise you because **only you** are worthy of our worship. We are so thankful that you rescue those who trust in you. Amen.*

Memory Verse:

*"The Lord your God is God in heaven above and on earth below."
(Joshua 2:11b)*

Watch Video Stories:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWkbq50tH5A&list=PLjuRHkK1UDY2Py8x37jjL4sd-f2xV77&index=1>

Rahab and the Spies – *saddleback kids*

<https://app.pureflix.com/videos/404186150823/veggietales-josh-and-the-big-wall>

– Josh and the Big Wall

Crafts: Rahab lets the Spies down.

Needed Items: template, red yarn, coloring products, tape, scissors.

Craft template provided by truewaykids.com



Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

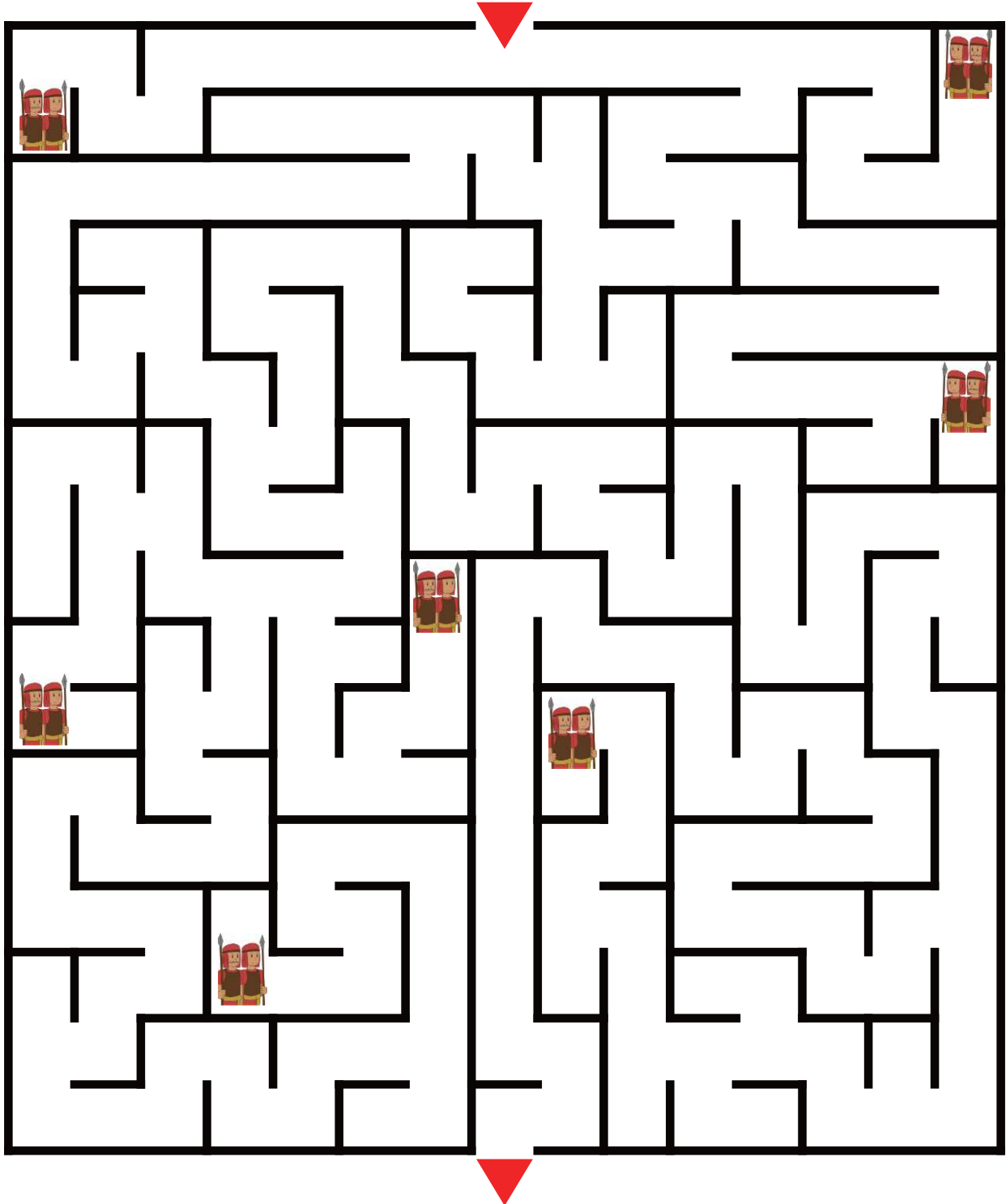
~ *Teacher Chrissy*

Thank you to www.truewaykids.com and <https://ministry-to-children.com/> for their lessons and for crafts ideas.

Also, www.truewaykids.com for their coloring pages and wordsearch.



Help the spies escape



Word Search

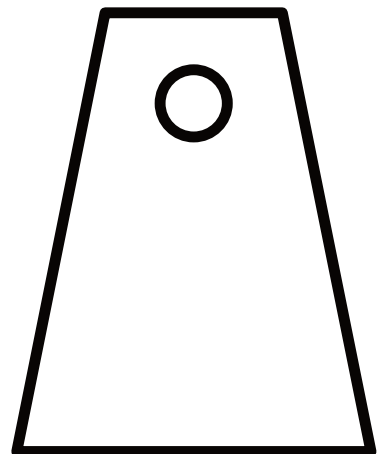
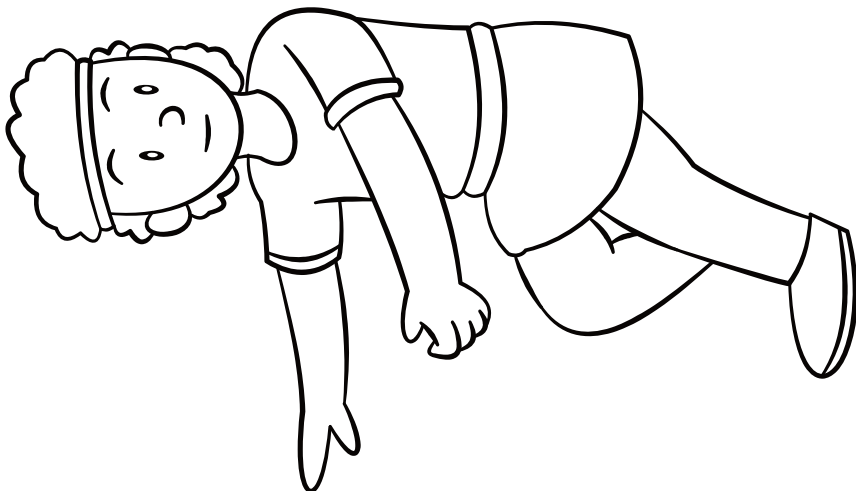
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W	P	C	X	O	L	N	X	C	G	N
D	H	K	O	W	Z	Y	M	E	H	K
O	L	R	Z	D	A	U	H	S	O	J

CORD
ESCAPE
FAITH
FAMILY
GRACE
JERICHO
JOSHUA
RAHAB
RED
ROOFTOP
SPIES
WALLS



"Rahab Trusts God"

She lets the spies
down with a
Red Cord.



True or False

	TRUE	FALSE
Rahab lived in the city of Jerusalem.		
Joshua sent three spies to Jericho.		
Rahab hid the spies in her house.		
The king of Jericho knew about the spies		
Rahab used a blue cord to help the spies escape.		
Rahab asked the spies to spare her and her family.		
Rahab hung the red cord from her door.		
Rahab and her family were saved when the Israelites took Jericho.		
Rahab was included in the family line of Jesus.		
Rahab hid the spies in the basement.		

