Pastor Kris Beckert Superhero’s Past

November 11, 2018 Hebrews 11:30-31; Joshua 2 & 6

**What superhero do you most relate to? Why?**

**Today’s Superhero: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

 Unlikely because she’s a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Hebrews 11:30-31 *By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days. 31By faith Rahab the prostitute, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.*

**Making “God-Use” of the Past:**

**I. Your Past \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Joshua 2:1-7 *Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. “Go, look over the land,” he said, “especially Jericho.” So they went and entered the house of a prostitute named Rahab and stayed there. 2The king of Jericho was told, “Look, some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land.” 3So the king of Jericho sent this message to Rahab: “Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house, because they have come to spy out the whole land.” 4But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. She said, “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. 5At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.” 6(But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.) 7So the men set out in pursuit of the spies on the road that leads to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.*

**II. Your Present \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Joshua 2:8-11  *Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof 9and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. 10We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. 11When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below…”*

**III. Your Future\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Joshua 2:12-15 *“Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign 13that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.” 14“Our lives for your lives!” the men assured her. “If you don’t tell what we are doing, we will treat you kindly and faithfully when the Lord gives us the land.” 15So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall.*

Joshua 6:22-25 *Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, “Go into the prostitute’s house, and bring the woman out of it and all who belong to her, as you swore to her.” 23So the young men who had been spies went in and brought Rahab out, along with her father, her mother, her brothers, and all who belonged to her—they brought all her kindred out—and set them outside the camp of Israel. 24They burned down the city, and everything in it; only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the Lord. 25But Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, Joshua spared. Her family has lived in Israel ever since. For she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.*

**Big Idea:**

**Doggy Bag: Something to take home and chew on!**

1. What part of your past do you wish you could change?
2. What from your past has uniquely positioned you to be used by God for good—in your present situation or in someone’s life?
3. What new perspective does God want you to have about your past? What must you learn or unlearn? What truth do you see? Where have you been wrong?
4. How can God’s grace transform your past into His greater story of redemption? What would it look like for you to define yourself and your future, not by what you’ve done, but by God’s grace?

If you’d like to talk personally and confidentially w/ Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email krisbeckert@thevineva.org or call 703-573-5836 to set up an appointment.