

GOD SPEAKS

READ JOSHUA 2:1-11

This Word from God is excerpted from a study prepared by Rev. Dr. Robert Newton for God's Sending Heart, Study 8, "For We Have Heard." Download the entire devotion and book at thegreatsending.org.

"For we have heard," said Rahab of Jericho to the two Israeli spies sent on a recon mission to the land of Canaan in preparation for God's people to possess it.... Hearing the story of God's mighty acts among the nations for the sake of His people moved her to believe that God (through Israel) would deal kindly with her and her family... While her countrymen feverishly prepared for their last but futile stand against the Lord of the nations, Rahab professed her faith in His power and desire to save....

Rahab's coming to faith raises a curious but critical question for those participating in God's Great Sending. How and from whom did she hear about the mighty acts of God... how did the other pagan nations hear of God's mighty acts?

Our participation by God's design is not optional. Rahab's story tells us that the story of our Lord's great acts - both His justice and His steadfast love - moves naturally from person to person, from people to people. It is always in motion in and out to the world, like ripples on a pond.

Rahab's statement, For we have heard, also intends to encourage us as much as instruct us in our proclamation of the Gospel. God's Word goes out to all the world through us, often despite us and always beyond us.

Grant we beseech You, almighty God, unto Your Church, Your Holy Spirit, and the wisdom which comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound, but have free course and be preached to the joy and edifying of all peoples in all places, that in steadfast faith they may serve You and in the confession of Your Name abide to the end. Amen.

Joshua
2:11

When 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.

CALL TO PRAYER

Luke 10:2

The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

SET YOUR ALARM FOR 10:02



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March MISSIONS PRAYER GUIDE

EQUIP, EMPOWER, ENGAGE,
CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS.



1 As I think of the one or two people with whom I most frequently interact, help me, Lord, to move our conversation and relationship to the next level. Give me a genuine concern and a real curiosity about what's going on in their life, and give me opportunity to share love in practical and tangible ways.

2 God, I want to know more of your amazing, refreshing love for me. Satisfy me with your love so that I can share it with others. Through daily time spent with you in your Word, let me fall deeper in love with you.

3 Give me a hope-filled life in Jesus and a ready heart and mind so that others will hear all about my Savior Jesus and the blessings I enjoy from Him. Prepare me and use me to invite others to live in hope, too.

4 I thank you, Lord, for the privilege and joy of being chosen by you to share your blessings through the relationships in my life. Bless me with a heart of care for others.

5 **ASH WEDNESDAY** – As I spend time with you, Jesus, during this Lenten Season, give me the boldness and confidence to share my faith story and your story, too.

6 Jesus, I want the whole world to know and worship you, but I can't make disciples of the whole world. Help me see those in my own life who need my intentional witness. Use me as your witness right where I am.

7 Forgive me, Lord, for my lack of awareness of those around me who need to hear your message of Good News; forgive me for not noticing those on the margins who need the welcome of our Savior delivered through me.

8 Jesus, use me in some way today as an ambassador of your Good News. Open my eyes to see the opportunities so that I can be intentional for your love's sake.

9 Lord Jesus, we pray that every congregation in our District will see themselves as participants in planting the Church – making new disciples, starting new ministries, planting new micro-churches and multi-sites, starting new congregations, or leaving a mission legacy. Use each congregation as instruments of your will here in Florida and Georgia.

10 **VETERANS OF THE CROSS** – Today, I thank you, Father, for those individuals in my life who have shared the Gospel message with me in word and deed. Bless the Veterans of the Cross who gather this week to learn and grow and rest in you.

11 Today, I pray against every attack on youth workers, teachers, pastors, church leaders, and their families; Lord, I pray that they will have adequate exercise, sleep, and healthy eating, and that they will spend precious time daily with Jesus.

12 Thank you, Lord, for saving me and sending me to carry out Your mission in the places where I live, work, and play. Open my eyes to every opportunity for witness and service.

13 God, use me as a worker in Your harvest fields. Allow me to build a caring relationship with (name of your friend, family member, co-worker). Help me become whatever kind of Christ-like servant they can identify with so that by all possible means, they will be saved.

14 Father, I pray that you would use me and each of us as good stewards to provide everything needed for those on the front lines of mission work.

15 I pray that every believer will feel a burden for the lost and will pray for open doors, open hearts, and boldness in witness and service. Lord, I pray for your special blessing on the work of our Area Mission Facilitators, Scott Gress, Mike Mast, Victor Belton.

16 Lord God, keep me from doing anything today that goes against Your will; do not let me shrink from any sacrifice that Your will demands. Suggest, direct, and guide every thought and action so that it may glorify You and bless my neighbor.

17 Lord, would you use my mouth and my hands to bless others in your name and prepare their hearts to be ready to receive my loving witness.

18 As many church planters and teams attend the Exponential Church Planter's Conference in Orlando this week, fill them with your Spirit, with enthusiasm for your mission and joy in the Gospel. Give your favor to their work in your harvest.

19 Lord, give me the committed heart to study your Word, read it, learn it, and share it with others in my life. Fill me with the beauty and wonder of your Word, with knowledge and insight that I may be able to instruct others in your Truth.

20 Jesus, teach me to be curious. Help me learn to ask questions that draw learning out of others. Give me a genuine desire to know their stories so that I can help them grow as disciples who make disciples.

21 God, be with Stepping Stone Mission in Atlanta as they minister to the homeless and needy through weekly sharing, care ministries, and worship. Bless Pastor Joseph Song and his team with boldness and compassion as they share Jesus' love.

22 Jesus, with Pastor Gustavo and Ruth Maita (Puerto Rico FORO missionaries), I pray today for the strengthening of faith for many new-to-the-faith members and Missionary Ashley Lehr's Deaconess studies. Thank you for being with them all!

23 We give thanks for opportunities to worship together with other Christians and for the joy of seeing others come to know Jesus as their Savior, forgiven, loved, restored, and precious in His sight.

24 I pray that my neighbors will experience the joy and peace that are found in Jesus alone and that I might have the privilege and opportunity to share these gifts with them.

25 Lord, today I ask for your protection for missionaries and partners who frequently drive for their work or who walk on rough roads or paths to minister to others.

26 Holy Spirit, give wisdom and confidence to school leaders, teachers, and helpers. Fill them with love for those whom they serve.

27 Today, I give thanks to those whom you have called to serve as our District Staff. I pray for our executive staff, which meets today: President Rockey, Laura Zirbel, Jay Wendland, Jennifer Tanner, Peter Meier, and Rusty Huseman. Thank you also for our Support Staff: Kathy Keene, Cindy Hammerstrom, Debbie Arington, and Meridith Swanson. Bless each with your joy and passion for their ministry.

28 Of the 7000 languages spoken worldwide, only 750 have access to a full Bible. Lord, sustain the mission of Bible translation to reduce that gap significantly in 2025!

29 Jesus, you have established the Pelican Ministries of SW Florida as a lighthouse of hope, offering love, mercy, and provision for immigrants and new believers. Bless the ministry of Pastor Mark Eisold and his mission team as they serve areas of need in SW Florida.

30 Holy Spirit, help me apply your Word to my life, practice obedience to your Word, and take practical steps to respond to what you tell me in the Word. Use me to help those I disciple to be faithful as well; help all of us in FLGA to grow in our disciple-making.

31 Your Word is so precious to me, Father, because you continually affirm me as your beloved child, a follower of Jesus. Use your Word to refresh and encourage me to live for you no matter where I am, to the praise of your name.