

WINNING THE WORRY BATTLE QUESTIONS

Chapters 7-8 to be completed by November 30 or December 4 Classes

CHAPTER 7: WHEN YOU CAN'T SEE AROUND YOUR SITUATION, PAGE 64

1. Do you have a worry in your life right now that feels like a GIANT WALL with no way around it, like the walls that surrounded Jericho? Write it here.

2. JOSHUA 2:1-8 "THEN JOSHUA SECRETLY SENT OUT TWO SPIES FROM THE ISRAELITE CAMP AT ACACIA GROVE. HE INSTRUCTED THEM, "SCOUT OUT THE LAND ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE JORDAN RIVER, ESPECIALLY AROUND JERICHO." SO THE TWO MEN SET OUT & CAME TO THE HOUSE OF A PROSTITUTE NAMED RAHAB & STAYED THERE THAT NIGHT. BUT SOMEONE TOLD THE KING OF JERICHO, "SOME ISRAELITES HAVE COME HERE TONIGHT TO SPY OUT THE LAND." SO THE KING OF JERICHO SENT ORDERS TO RAHAB: "BRING OUT THE MEN WHO HAVE COME INTO YOUR HOUSE, FOR THEY HAVE COME HERE TO SPY OUT THE WHOLE LAND." RAHAB HAD HIDDEN THE TWO MEN, BUT SHE REPLIED, "YES, THE MEN WERE HERE EARLIER, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE THEY WERE FROM. THEY LEFT THE TOWN AT DUSK, AS THE GATES WERE ABOUT TO CLOSE. I DON'T KNOW WHERE THEY WENT. IF YOU HURRY, YOU CAN PROBABLY CATCH UP WITH THEM." (ACTUALLY, SHE HAD TAKEN THEM UP TO THE ROOF & HIDDEN THEM BENEATH BUNDLES OF FLAX SHE HAD LAID OUT.) SO THE KING'S MEN WENT LOOKING FOR THE SPIES ALONG THE ROAD LEADING TO THE SHALLOW CROSSINGS OF THE JORDAN RIVER. AND AS SOON AS THE KING'S MEN HAD LEFT, THE GATE OF JERICHO WAS SHUT."

- Describe Rahab.

3. JOSHUA 2:9-11 "I KNOW THE LORD HAS GIVEN YOU THIS LAND," SHE TOLD THEM. "WE ARE ALL AFRAID OF YOU. EVERYONE IN THE LAND IS LIVING IN TERROR. FOR WE HAVE HEARD HOW THE LORD MADE A DRY PATH FOR YOU THROUGH THE RED SEA WHEN YOU LEFT EGYPT. AND WE KNOW WHAT YOU DID TO SIHON & OG, THE TWO AMORITE KINGS EAST OF THE JORDAN RIVER, WHOSE PEOPLE YOU COMPLETELY DESTROYED. NO WONDER OUR HEARTS HAVE MELTED IN FEAR! NO ONE HAS THE COURAGE TO FIGHT AFTER HEARING SUCH THINGS. FOR THE LORD YOUR GOD IS THE SUPREME GOD OF THE HEAVENS ABOVE & THE EARTH BELOW."

- Life Lesson 1 from RAHAB in dealing with our WORRY WALLS: Even when you can't see what's beyond your current situation G_____ IS STILL G_____. We can't know everything, but God does. Even in our questions God has GOT THIS without breaking a sweat.

4. JOSHUA 2:12-13, 17-21 "NOW SWEAR TO ME BY THE LORD THAT YOU WILL BE KIND TO ME & MY FAMILY SINCE I HAVE HELPED YOU. GIVE ME SOME GUARANTEE THAT WHEN JERICHO IS CONQUERED, YOU WILL LET ME LIVE, ALONG WITH MY FATHER & MOTHER, MY BROTHERS & SISTERS, & ALL THEIR FAMILIES." BEFORE THEY LEFT, THE MEN TOLD HER, "WE WILL BE BOUND BY THE OATH WE HAVE TAKEN ONLY IF YOU FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS. WHEN WE COME INTO THE LAND, YOU MUST LEAVE THIS SCARLET ROPE HANGING FROM THE WINDOW THROUGH WHICH YOU LET US DOWN. AND ALL YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS—YOUR FATHER, MOTHER, BROTHERS, & ALL YOUR RELATIVES—MUST BE HERE INSIDE THE HOUSE. IF THEY GO OUT INTO THE STREET & ARE KILLED, IT WILL NOT BE OUR FAULT. BUT IF ANYONE LAYS A HAND ON PEOPLE INSIDE THIS HOUSE, WE WILL ACCEPT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR DEATH. IF YOU BETRAY US, HOWEVER, WE ARE NOT BOUND BY THIS OATH IN ANY WAY." "I ACCEPT YOUR TERMS," SHE REPLIED. AND SHE SENT THEM ON THEIR WAY, LEAVING THE SCARLET ROPE HANGING FROM THE WINDOW."

- Life Lesson 2 from RAHAB in dealing with our WORRY WALLS: Don't let your panic cause you to pass up an opportunity to A_____ God for H_____ in faith. We want God to rescue us without having to work at a relationship with Him. God wants us to wait on Him. We have to wait for God to move us over whatever is blocking our way.

5. JOSHUA 6:22-25 "MEANWHILE, JOSHUA SAID TO THE TWO SPIES, "KEEP YOUR PROMISE. GO TO THE PROSTITUTE'S HOUSE & BRING HER OUT, ALONG WITH ALL HER FAMILY." THE MEN WHO HAD BEEN SPIES WENT IN & BROUGHT OUT RAHAB, HER FATHER, MOTHER, BROTHERS, & ALL THE OTHER RELATIVES WHO WERE WITH HER. THEY MOVED HER WHOLE FAMILY TO A SAFE PLACE NEAR THE CAMP OF ISRAEL. THEN THE ISRAELITES BURNED THE TOWN & EVERYTHING IN IT. ONLY THE THINGS MADE FROM SILVER, GOLD, BRONZE, OR IRON WERE KEPT FOR THE TREASURY OF THE LORD'S HOUSE. SO JOSHUA SPARED RAHAB THE PROSTITUTE & HER RELATIVES WHO WERE WITH HER IN THE HOUSE, BECAUSE SHE HAD HIDDEN THE SPIES JOSHUA SENT TO JERICHO. AND SHE LIVES AMONG THE ISRAELITES TO THIS DAY."

- Life Lesson 3 from RAHAB in dealing with our WORRY WALLS: When your life feels like it is falling apart, hang on to J_____ and refuse to take matters into your own hands as you wait for Him to work on your behalf.

6. What was Rahab's scarlet rope a symbol of? Explain what this means to you also.

7. What physical reminder can you use to clutch onto (like the author's bracelet or red piece of string) to remind you when worried that you are choosing instead to hang onto Jesus right now and wait on Him to get you through your stressful situation? Share this with your small group.

CHAPTER 8: CIRCUMCISION OF THE HEART, PAGE 74.

1. GENESIS 17:7-13 "I WILL CONFIRM MY COVENANT WITH YOU & YOUR DESCENDANTS AFTER YOU, FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION. THIS IS THE EVERLASTING COVENANT: I WILL ALWAYS BE YOUR GOD & THE GOD OF YOUR DESCENDANTS AFTER YOU. AND I WILL GIVE THE ENTIRE LAND OF CANAAN, WHERE YOU NOW LIVE AS A FOREIGNER, TO YOU & YOUR DESCENDANTS. IT WILL BE THEIR POSSESSION FOREVER, & I WILL BE THEIR GOD." THEN GOD SAID TO ABRAHAM, "YOUR RESPONSIBILITY IS TO OBEY THE TERMS OF THE COVENANT. YOU & ALL YOUR DESCENDANTS HAVE THIS CONTINUAL RESPONSIBILITY. THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT YOU & YOUR DESCENDANTS MUST KEEP: EACH MALE AMONG YOU MUST BE CIRCUMCISED. YOU MUST CUT OFF THE FLESH OF YOUR FORESKIN AS A SIGN OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN ME & YOU. FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, EVERY MALE CHILD MUST BE CIRCUMCISED ON THE EIGHTH DAY AFTER HIS BIRTH. THIS APPLIES NOT ONLY TO MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY BUT ALSO TO THE SERVANTS BORN IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD & THE FOREIGN-BORN SERVANTS WHOM YOU HAVE PURCHASED. ALL MUST BE CIRCUMCISED. YOUR BODIES WILL BEAR THE MARK OF MY EVERLASTING COVENANT."

- What did the outward sign of circumcision for every Israelite male mean ?

2. ROMANS 2:29 "NO, A TRUE JEW IS ONE WHOSE HEART IS RIGHT WITH GOD. AND TRUE CIRCUMCISION IS NOT MERELY OBEYING THE LETTER OF THE LAW; RATHER, IT IS A CHANGE OF HEART PRODUCED BY THE SPIRIT. AND A PERSON WITH A CHANGED HEART SEEKS PRAISE FROM GOD, NOT FROM PEOPLE."

- How are believers circumcised today, as adopted by King Jesus into His family?

3. What does a circumcised, willing heart look like? Fill in the blanks from page 80 to find the answers.

- A circumcised, willing heart is EAGER TO W_____.
- A circumcised, willing heart LOVES J_____ and His I_____ people.
- A circumcised, willing heart trusts G_____ at His W_____.

4. Take the HEART CIRCUMCISION CHALLENGE, on page 83.

- Write each of your fears, worries, secret rules, & wrong attitudes on a slip of paper.
- Tell God about each of them & give Him permission to circumcise your heart. If you need words for your prayer, use the author's prayer on the bottom of page 83.
- After you pray, rip up the slips of paper and put the pieces into a fireproof bowl and burn them.
- Journal about your experience or take a few photos to mark the moment, so when the devil wants to use your past against you, you can tell him to get away in the name of Jesus and His shed blood because you have dealt with your sin and allowed Jesus to circumcise your heart. Can I hear am amen?!

MORE TOOLS TO "WIN OVER WORRY" THIS WEEK:

TONY EVANS DVD: FREEDOM FROM FEAR (find on youtube)

PLAYLIST: LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE Tasha Layton

NEVER LET GO OF ME Group Music

EVEN IF Mercy Me

SAME GOD Elevation Worship