

## Sunday Leftovers

**Sermon Title:** Back to Ones – Her too?

### WHAT'S THIS MESSAGE ABOUT?

While we don't know much about Rahab's past, what we do know is not good. Scripture tells us that, as an *act of faith*, she receives, hides and delivers the spies of Israel. Her demonstration of belief continues as she confesses the identity of Yahweh as Lord over heaven and earth. She is thus delivered from the fate destined for the citizens of Jericho. Bottom line: No one is out of reach for God. None of us is too far gone to start over, to go "back to ones."

### Questions for discussion:

- *What do you think was the main point of Matt's message?*
- *Read Joshua 2: 1-24; Matthew 1:1-16: What lesson(s) does this story teach that can help us gain a better understanding on how God feels about our past and our future?*
- *What are some obstacles that might hold some people back from letting go of their past and embracing a God-blessed future?*
- *What are some practical "first steps" you can take that will get you moving in the right direction?*

**Do something about it: Reject the lie that "it is too late!"** Accept the mercy and grace that God provides. Even the Apostle Paul knew that, with his past and human weaknesses, it would be difficult to accept the new role that God provided for him, unless he truly accepted the grace and forgiveness which God provides and forgave himself. Paul's epiphany, which could also be yours, came when God revealed to him that he was, ***"a new creation, the old things have passed away, behold all things are new."*** (2 Corinthians 5:17). From that point on he began each day by believing and teaching of one of God's greatest promises: ***"There is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ."*** (Romans 8:1). These promises belong to all of us! If we believe them and claim them we will be well on our way to accepting the new role and relationship which God has planned for us.

**Digging deeper:** Joshua 2:1-24; 6:1-27; Hebrews 11:31; James 2:25; Matthew 1:1-16; Jeremiah 31:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1