

No copyright materials are used in this text
The summary and interpretation of the specific chapter and verses
are from the Bible, they are religious text that is in the public
domain.

Free to Copy and Distribute: Spread the Word!

(Peter Lok) 駱沅祺

lokpeter@outlook.com

Bibleao.com

Daily Rice 2023 November 24

YouTube Prayer Link

Don't look down on yourself

God accomplishes the greatest mission with the most ordinary people

The Book of Joshua (Chapter 2)

2:4 And when the woman had hid them, she answered them, "Sure enough, the man has come to me. I don't know where they come from.

In the long history of mankind, there are many stories that illustrate the miraculous and the extraordinary, but sometimes the most amazing thing is that God accomplished the greatest mission with the most ordinary people.

An ordinary person, who may be a pedestrian on the street, or a simple farmer, or an inconspicuous craftsman, lives in the corner of the community, obscure, but has a different mission. These people were chosen not because of their prestige or status, but because of their simplicity of heart and the power to connect with God.

Perhaps it was a shepherd like David, who played the harp in the prairie as a young man and later became the great king of Israel. With faith and courage, he defeated a formidable enemy and not only built a powerful kingdom, but also made people remember what he had done for God.

Or a poor young girl named Maria, who spends her days in a corner of Nazareth, but receives an angelic revelation to become the mother of the Son of God. Her selfless love and unwavering faith became a long-lasting testimony to miracles and made God's love and grace known to the world.

These ordinary people, with their faith and humility, let God's plan unfold on earth. They may not have a glorious appearance or noble status, but their hearts are filled with faith in God and love for humanity.

These stories remind us that God's plan often does not depend on worldly forces or flamboyant appearances, but is tied to every life. God's choice of the most ordinary people to accomplish His great things demonstrates His trust and love for everyone.

So, regardless of our status, we can be God's instruments to accomplish His plan. As long as we have a simple heart and faith in God, even ordinary people can achieve extraordinary things to show God's love and miracles in the world. In the long history of mankind, there are many stories that illustrate the miraculous and the extraordinary, but sometimes the most amazing thing is that God accomplished the greatest mission with the most ordinary people.

Christians waiting for God's use require continuous growth in the faith, which includes spiritual formation and practice. Here are a few key aspects:

Prayer and devotional

Prayer: Through prayer, you can connect with God, express gratitude, seek guidance, and commit your life to God.

Devotional: Reading the Bible, meditating, and contemplating God's Word can help you grow spiritually and understand it at a deeper level.

Knowing God's will

Understanding the Bible: Learn about God's will and heart by studying the Bible and apply it to your daily life.

Learn about God's attributes: Learn about God's attributes and plans for people, get inspiration from them, and imitate God's love, forgiveness, and justice.

Develop spiritual character

Humility: Maintain a humble mindset and recognize that everything comes from God's grace, not self-centered, but putting yourself in a position of service to others.

Love and Forgiveness: Seek love and forgiveness, which are the core values of the Christian faith, showing compassion, love, and tolerance for others.

Action to serve

Serving others: Demonstrating Christ's love through giving and loving service to the needs in the community.

Practice Faith: Live out your faith, not only in words, but more importantly in deeds.

Connect with faith communities

Get involved in church: Gathering, worshipping, sharing, and learning with other Christians can be supported and encouraged.

Building Group Links: Building connections with faith communities, participating in fellowship activities and services, and supporting and helping others together.

Waiting for God's use is not just a passive wait, but an active process that requires sustained effort and commitment. In this way, Christians can grow in their faith and be ready to fulfill their God-given mission.

We pray together:

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank You for giving us this wonderful time to gather in Your presence. We open our hearts to You and humbly ask for Your help and guidance.

Today we pray for every Christian to give them a pure heart and let their hearts become a place for You to dwell. May Your Spirit work in them, cleansing all things that are not in Your heart, and fill their hearts with Your love, joy, and peace.

Give them hope and patience as they learn to grow in waiting. May they not wait in idleness, but in faith and in preparation for Your mission and blessings.

Give us wisdom and clear direction so that we can understand Your heart and act according to Your will. Ask You to guide us to know Your deeper truths and to live out Your love and grace in our lives.

Help us to always be humble and fearful of You, knowing that all our power and strength come from You. Make us servants who are ready to fulfill Your mission.

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

.

Joshua chapter 2

Jo. 2:1 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.

Jo. 2:2 The king of Jericho was told, "Look! Some of the Israelites have come here tonight to spy out the land."

Jo. 2:3 So 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."

Jo. 2:4 But 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."

Jo. 2:5 At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, the men left.

I don't know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them."

Jo. 2:6 (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)

Jo. 2:7 So 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.

Jo. 2:8 Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof

Jo. 2:9 and said to them, "I know that the LORD has given this land to you 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.

Jo. 2:10 We 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.

Jo. 2:11 When we heard of it, our hearts sank and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

Jo. 2:12 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

Jo. 2:13 that 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."

Jo. 2:14 "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."

Jo. 2:15 So she let them down by a rope through the window, for the house she lived in was part of the city wall.

Jo. 2:16 Now she had said to them, "Go to the hills so that the pursuers will not find you. Hide yourselves there three days until they return, and then go on your way."

Jo. 2:17 The men said to her, "This oath you made us swear will not be binding on us

Jo. 2:18 unless, when we enter the land, you have tied this scarlet cord in the window through which you let us down, and unless you have brought your father and mother, your brothers and all your family into your house.

Jo. 2:19 If anyone goes outside your house into the street, his blood will be on his own head; we will not be responsible. As for anyone who is in the house with you, his blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on him.

Jo. 2:20 But if you tell what we are doing, we will be released from the oath you made us swear."

Jo. 2:21 "Agreed," she replied. "Let it be as you say." So she sent them away and they departed. And she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

Jo. 2:22 When they left, they went into the hills and stayed there three days, until the pursuers had searched all along the road and returned without finding them.

Jo. 2:23 Then the two men started back. They went down out of the hills, forded the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them.

Jo. 2:24 They said to Joshua, "The LORD has surely given the whole land into our hands; all the people are melting in fear because of us."

Chapter 2 begins with Joshua sending two spies to scout out the city of Jericho. The spies arrive and go to the house of a prostitute named Rahab, whom they had previously met in chapter 1. Rahab hides the spies and helps them to escape by lowering them down from her window with a rope.

Before they leave, Rahab reveals her belief in the power of the Israelite God, Yahweh, and requests that the spies spare her and her family when they conquer the city. The spies agree to Rahab's request and tell her to hang a scarlet cord from her window so that they will know to spare her when they come to take the city.

The spies then return to Joshua and report their findings, telling him that the people of Jericho are afraid of the Israelites and that God has given them the land. Joshua then leads the Israelites across the Jordan River and sets up camp near Jericho, preparing to take the city as God has instructed them to do.

Chapter 2 shows the faith of Rahab, a woman from a city that was to be destroyed, in the God of Israel. It also highlights the importance of strategic planning and preparation in the success of the Israelites' mission to conquer the land that God had promised them.

Joshua chapter 2 contains several important verses in the Christian Bible. Here are a few examples:

1. "Then Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim. 'Go, look over the land,' he said, 'especially Jericho.'" (Joshua 2:1)
2. "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" (Joshua 2:12)
3. "The Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below." (Joshua 2:11)
4. "Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof and 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.'" (Joshua 2:8-9)
5. "And Joshua spared Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, because she hid the men Joshua had sent as spies to Jericho—and she lives among the Israelites to this day." (Joshua 6:25)

These verses contain important messages about courage, faith, obedience to God, kindness, and God's power and sovereignty. They also highlight the importance of seeking God's guidance and protection, even in dangerous situations, and the rewards of obeying Him.

In Joshua chapter 2, we encounter the account of Joshua sending spies into the city of Jericho. This chapter is significant because it introduces us to Rahab, a Canaanite woman who plays a crucial role in the Israelites' conquest of Jericho.

One of the main themes in this chapter is God's faithfulness and His ability to use unlikely individuals for His purposes. Rahab, a prostitute and a foreigner, becomes an instrumental figure in the Israelites' plan to conquer Jericho. She hides the Israelite spies on her roof and provides them with valuable information about the city's defenses. In return, she asks for protection and mercy for herself and her family when the Israelites attack. This shows that God's grace extends beyond ethnic and societal boundaries, and He can work through anyone who chooses to align themselves with His purposes.

Rahab's actions also teach us about the power of faith and trust in God. Despite being part of a culture that worshiped different gods, Rahab had heard about the Israelites and the miracles God had performed for them. She recognized that the God of Israel was the one true God, and she had faith that He would fulfill His promises. Her faith prompted her to take great risks by hiding the spies and making a pact with them. Rahab's faith is highlighted in the New Testament as well, emphasizing her inclusion in the lineage of Jesus Christ, demonstrating God's acceptance of all who believe and trust in Him.

Another important lesson from this chapter is the significance of obedience and following God's guidance. The spies were sent by Joshua, acting in obedience to God's command to gather information about the land. Their presence in Jericho was a demonstration of the Israelites' commitment to follow God's instructions, even if it meant taking risks and entering enemy territory. The spies' actions remind us that obedience to God's commands is essential, even when the task seems daunting or the circumstances uncertain.

Furthermore, chapter 2 also highlights the power of God's providence and His ability to work out His plans despite human shortcomings. The fact that the spies were discovered by the king's men and narrowly escaped capture demonstrates that the success of the mission was not solely dependent on human abilities but ultimately on God's intervention and protection. It serves as a reminder that when we step out in faith and align ourselves with God's purposes, He will guide and protect us, even in the face of adversity.

In reflection, Joshua chapter 2 teaches us important lessons about God's faithfulness, the power of faith and trust, the significance of obedience, and the role of divine providence. It reminds us that God can use anyone, regardless of their background or circumstances, for His purposes. It encourages us to trust in God's guidance and step out in faith, even in uncertain situations. And it reassures us that when we align ourselves with God's plans and follow His commands, He will be with us, guiding and protecting us along the way.

