

# יְהוֹשֻׁעַ YEHOSHUA

## Chapter 2 & Toldot

In Chapter 2 we are once again in Canaan with spies, but this time things will go much better than they did before. Instead of 12 spies, it's two (presumably Caleb and Pinchas). And instead of a public sending, it's done in secret. The spies interact with Rahab, a prostitute, and discover that in fact, Jericho is ripe for conquering, and they return to relay the news to Joshua, but not before promising to spare Rahab and her family for her kindness.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Consider Rahab's lie in verses 4 and 5. Discuss the relationship between moral absolutes and situational ethics and her lie was morally justified. Where in the Torah do we see an example of a life-saving lie?
2. Prostitutes don't normally receive praise for their actions, yet Rahab did. What do her mentions in Matthew 1:5 and Hebrews 11:31 tell us about who God is and the kind of people he saves?
3. Reflect on the root word translated "to melt": *masas*. What spiritual lessons can we learn from a word spelled *mem-samech-samech*? And when in your life have you been melted down into something new?
4. In light of the pre-Hanukkah season we are now in, what ways are you personally being called "battle" right now by sticking to a decision that wouldn't necessarily "make sense" to most people? How is Beth Tikkun being called right now to walk a path that flies in the face of Greek-centered human reason?
5. Explain how discomfort and even persecution are related to both the cleansing of a body and rapid growth.
6. What roadblocks get in the way of inviting people to your home fellowship? How can we do better at reaching out?

