

The Power of Encouragement Joshua 2; Numbers 13

Encourage - to fill with courage or strength of purpose, to spur on, to attempt to persuade.

Both Moses and Joshua had a command of God. They sent spies ahead of Israel to spy out the land and report back. However, there was a different report from the two sets of spies. Why was the response different? Encouragement.

- 1) Encouragement can come from unlikely places. The men spies went to the home of a harlot (Josh. 2:1). Important note is we can't dictate where our encouragement will come from.
- 2) Encouragement can come from unlikely people. God used a Rahab, a harlot, to bring encouragement to the people (Josh. 2:8 &9). She used their own history to encourage them. We can at times forget our own story, and need others to encourage and remind us.
- 3) When reporting back to Joshua, the spies used the very words that encouraged them. They spoke the same words to Joshua as Rahab spoke to them (Josh. 2: 24).

Some principles:

What you hear affects what you see

What you see affects what you say

What you say affects what you do

It is important to not limit ourselves by what we see and say.

Closing questions:

Who are you encouraging? Who is encouraging you?

Learn to encourage yourself and be an encourager.