"An Unlikely Cure" – Laura Range

Joshua 2:1-24

- 1. What stands out to you as you read this passage fresh? What details catch your attention that you might not have noticed before?
- 2. Look at verses 9-11 Rahab's confession. What specific things does she say she *knows* about God? What has she heard? What does she declare about who God is?
- 3. Notice the actions Rahab takes (verses 4-6, 15-16). Make a list together. What risks is she taking? What is she giving up?
- 4. Look at the spies' report in verse 24. What do they bring back to Joshua? How does this compare to the report of the 10 spies in Numbers 13:31-33?
- 5. Laura talked about how the 10 spies and the 2 spies saw the same landscape but through different lenses. Read Numbers 13:31-33 and 14:6-9. What lens were the 10 spies using? What lens were Joshua and Caleb using? What made the difference?
 - Laura said: "The difference is not in the landscape, it's in the lens through which we see it." What are some common "lenses" people use today to evaluate whether they can step forward in obedience? (Examples might include: my resources, my competence, my past failures, what others think, etc.)
 - How does the lens of "God's presence and promises" change how we see the same circumstances?
- 6. Why is it so surprising that Rahab is the one who demonstrates clear faith in this story? What advantages did the Israelites have that she didn't?
- 7. Laura said: "Very often those at the center just don't see as clearly as those in the margin." Why do you think this is true? What might get in the way for those who have more resources, stability, or success?
- 8. What does Rahab's inclusion in Jesus' genealogy (Matthew 1:5) tell us about God's redemptive work? What does it preview about the kind of salvation Jesus brings?
- 9. Laura asked: "Where is God inviting you to trust him and to step into something that he has called you to, but you're looking at your own resources and your own abilities and you're saying, 'I can't'?"
 - Take 2-3 minutes of quiet to consider this personally. If comfortable, share with the group: What is one area where you're standing at "the border of obedience"?
- 10. Laura pointed out that sometimes our strengths and successes can actually get in the way of trusting God. What are you depending on right now—not theoretically, but in real time? Are

- there "good things" (competence, security, control, reputation) that have quietly moved to the center while God has been pushed to the margins?
- 11. Laura shared how people testified to growth through illness, loss, and being pushed to the margins. How can we as a group create space to hear from those whose faith is being forged in hard places? How might their perspective help those of us who are "doing okay" see more clearly?
- 12. Is there something God might be calling our group to do that feels risky or beyond our resources? How can we help each other trade the lens of "what we can manage" for the lens of "God's goodness and promises"?