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PARISH CHURCHES

**KEY VERSE:**

*Then the two men started back. They left the hills and crossed the river and came to Joshua son of Nun and told him everything that had happened to them. They said, "The Lord surely has given us all of the land."*

**Joshua 2:23,24**



[www.csp-parish.org.uk](http://www.csp-parish.org.uk)

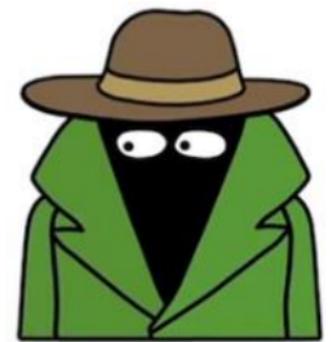


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# FOUNDATION CAFÉ SERVICE

25th October, 2015

## Wise Leaders 2: Joshua and the Spies



## KNOW WHAT:

- Today we continue our theme of 'Wise Leaders'.
- God had called Joshua to be the next leader after Moses. God told Joshua to be strong and brave, and promised that He would always be with him.
- Joshua started to lead the people.
- He found out more about the land God had promised by sending two spies to look at the land, especially the city of Jericho.
- The spies went into Jericho and were kept safe by a lady called Rahab.
- Rahab knew that God was with Joshua and his people. She asked the spies to make sure that she and her family would be kept safe when Joshua took over their land.

## SO WHAT:

- Both Joshua and Rahab had to put their faith into action. They both behaved wisely.
- The people of Jericho knew that Joshua's God was powerful and would make Joshua successful. What might others outside the church think of our God?
- There were people in Jericho already who would be there to help. Often God has prepared the way for us by bringing people into our lives just at the right time.

## NOW WHAT:

- Let's put our faith in action in the places God has called us to be leaders, and be wise.
- Let's ask whether God is calling us to new positions of leadership in His church?

## JIM'S JOTTINGS

### We need spies!

Although they seek to inhabit a secret world, spies are often in the news. This week the new Bond movie, Spectre, is being released. Most spy movies and novels are, of course, very far from reality with their fast cars, speedboat chases, glamorous women and gun battles. The real world of spying is far more mundane with careful intelligence work detecting those who would seek to harm us.

British intelligence has much to be proud of over many years. In the Second World War, thanks to the ground breaking work of the code crackers, Britain identified every German agent spying in Britain. This helped change the course of the war and bring an Allied victory.

But, like anyone else, spies can get out of control and there are well known examples where foreign spies have done so in recent years. So spy agencies need great leaders. In Britain it is really encouraging to know that the last and current heads of MI5 are both committed Christians bringing strong ethical values to their work.

Today in Foundation we look at a great spy story from the Bible, when Joshua needed to conquer Jericho. He sent out spies who risked their lives to obtain key intelligence. But they were spotted as strangers in the city and hid for safety in the local brothel! The brothel keeper, Rahab, had a choice – to hide them or give them up. Her response shows great courage and true leadership from someone you might never think of as a leader.

Perhaps today God wants you to be a leader in this church or community, not in a very public role like Joshua's, but in small ways like Rahab. Take time today to ask God what he wants you to do, and step out with courage.