



Promised Land: Joshua and Rahab

Joshua 2:2-6, 8-9, 12-18

"Hey Brodie!" Cody yelled through the door into the crew cabin. "Mail call, dude. This letter came for you."

Brodie crossed the deck and took the letter. "Sweet! Mail from the mainland!" He flipped it over and read the address. "Yo, this is from my friend, Kanunu!"

"K-who-who?!" Cody stumbled over the name.

"Kanunu, man. He's this awesome surfer I met at the Tahiti Invitational last summer." Brodie explained as he tore open the envelope.

Cody paused a moment, "Oh, right! That's when you went down to that surf contest in the islands where you totally wiped out and ate a face full of sand!"

"You don't have to bring that up, man!" Brodie groaned.

"Dude, you totally face planted!" Cody teased.

Brodie threw his brother an annoyed look. "All right, Dude! Lighten up, man!"

Cody pointed to the letter. "So, what does K-Mart have to say?"

"Kanunu!" Brodie corrected. "It says, 'Dear Dude...'" he stopped and looked up; a grin spreading across his face. "That's me!" he noted, then continued reading. "'Dear Dude, Sorry about the way you wiped out.'"

Cody laughed and pointed at Brodie. "Wahh, ha! He got you, dude!"

Brodie ignored his brother. "I am coming to the U.S. of America. Maybe we can hang out and crack some waves! See you soon. Your pal, Kanunu!" Brodie read.

"Dude, that's awesome maybe we can take him out on the boat." Cody smiled. Cody just slouched against the rail looking sad. "Hey man, what's wrong? Are you okay?" he asked, wondering if he had teased his brother a little too much.

Brodie shook his head. "No dude, I'm totally bummed."

"Why are you sad, dear brother?" Cody said. "I'm sorry I was making fun of your surfing, dude."

"No, it's not that," Brodie replied. "It's because, dude, Kanunu's like a really cool dude but he comes from an island where they believe in a whole bunch of gods. I just wish he could know the one true God like we do."

"Dude, he can." Cody replied.

"No dude, you don't understand. On his island the people don't even like Christians. If he believed in Jesus as the one true God, his family would be embarrassed. He just can't." Brodie explained.

"But dude, he totally can." Cody assured. "Anyone can follow God. Even an enemy of the Israelites could, if they believed. Uncle Captain Billy showed me in the Bible."

Brodie's face brightened and he ran across the deck to the Treasure Chest to get his uncle's Bible. He was back seconds later. "Here's the Bible. Where is it? Where is it?" he begged breathlessly.

Cody grinned at his brother's excitement and turned the pages of the big black leather Bible. "Look here, in the book of Joshua." He announced and pointed to the passage.

"Oh right, I remember Joshua! He was the leader after Moses. He led the Israelites into the land God had promised His people." Brodie remembered.

"Excellent description, Bro!" Cody congratulated as he reached up to give his brother a big high-five. "Now, Joshua sent two spies to check out the land of Jericho. Remember that Jericho was the city with the big wall around it! Anyway, God sent the two spies to the house of this woman named Rahab, whose house was built into the wall."

"Dude, I love a good spy story!" Brodie exclaimed. "So what did Rahab do? Did she give away the secret code to the city gate?"

"No, not quite! But she helped those spies and even hid them when the soldiers came looking for them."

"Wow, dude, I bet that was a dangerous thing for her to do! Why did she help them?" Brodie asked.

"Because man, she had heard about how God had defeated all of the enemies of Israel. She said that her people's hearts, like, melted with fear! She told the spies, 'I know the Lord has given this land to you...' And then she said, 'the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.'"

"Whoa, that's deep. Then what did she do?"

Cody picked up a nearby coil of rope and dangled one end over the edge of the ship's rail. "Well, first she helped the spies climb down the wall on a rope and escape!"

"Dude, that's like Spiderman!" Brodie exclaimed.

"Totally! Then Rahab asked the spies to keep her whole family safe. They told her to get her mom and dad and everyone in her family into the room and then tie a red cord in the window as a secret sign."

"Ooohhh, the red cord is the secret code! So then when the Israelites attacked Jericho and saw the red cord, they'd know not to hurt anyone in that house." Brodie said.

"Correct-a-mundo!" Cody said, then read, "Rahab said, '...you will save us from death.'"

"Cool! So God has enough love to save our enemies. Our God loves and saves anyone who believes!" Brodie exclaimed.

"And then He uses us to build His kingdom!" Cody added. God used Rahab to help save the whole world. She married an Israelite and ended becoming a great, great grandma of King David. So she's related to Jesus," he explained.

Brodie was getting very excited. "Wow, Dude, that's totally a miracle."

"Yup, you see that? If God could do all that, then imagine what God could do with Kanunu and his tribe!" Cody explained.

Brodie nodded. "That should be a drop in the bucket!"

"Or a face plant in the ocean, as the case may be!" Cody said with a laugh, not able to resist teasing his brother one more time.

This time, Brodie laughed along with him. "Very funny! Dude, I'm totally going to write Kanunu and tell him all about the God who saves anyone who believes in Him!"

"Now your talkin' God's language!" Cody said "I have some paper and a pen by my bunk. You can write this dude right now."

"I'm on it!" Brodie bounded off towards the cabin with his brother close behind. He couldn't wait to share the great news of God's love with his good friend Kanunu.