



FIRST CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

WELCOME to First Christian Assembly, an independent church whose mission is articulated by Jesus in Mark 16:15 when he said "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature". Following this great commission, First Christian Assembly preaches and teaches the gospel of Jesus Christ. In so doing, we trust that God, working through His Holy Spirit will draw souls to salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord.

R A H A B

We continue our look at the Old Testament figures recognized for their life of faith.

In the book of Joshua, we are introduced to one of the most thought-provoking and astonishing heroines of the Old Testament. Rahab, the prostitute of the Canaanite city of Jericho, ultimately is noteworthy for her great faith and for her place in the lineage of Jesus Christ. But a closer examination of the life of this remarkable Gentile woman can lead to deeper insights into God's plan for His church and His dealing with individual believers in grace and mercy.

Rahab's story is found in Joshua 2–6. This passage describes the conquest of the fortified city of Jericho by the Israelites. The Israelites crossed the Jordan into Canaan where they laid siege to the city of Jericho. The city was completely destroyed, and every man, woman, and child in it was killed. Only Rahab and her family were spared. Ultimately, Rahab married Salmon, an Israelite from the tribe of Judah. Her son was Boaz, the husband of Ruth. Joseph, the legal father of Jesus, is her direct descendant. It is often said that Rahab, while being a true historical person, also serves as a symbolic foreshadowing or "type" of the church and Gentile believers. She was, in fact, the first recorded Gentile convert.

Spiritually, Rahab was not in an ideal circumstance to come to faith in the one true God, the God of Israel. She was a citizen of a wicked city that was under God's condemnation. Rahab was part of a corrupt, depraved, pagan culture. She had not benefited from the godly leadership of Moses or Joshua. However, Rahab had one asset—she had heard from the many men she came into contact with that the Israelites were to be feared. She heard the stories of their escape from Egypt, the crossing of the Red Sea, the wanderings in the wilderness, and their recent victory over the Amorites. She learned enough to reach the correct, saving conclusion: "For the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below" (Joshua 2:11). It is this change of heart, this faith—coupled with the actions prompted by faith—that saved her and her family.

Ministry Highlights

Announcements:

➤ *First Christian Assembly will be holding an **OPEN HOUSE** on Sunday December 13th during our Morning Worship Service. We will be highlighting all the various ministries and services that are available at the Church as well as The Philadelphia Access Center. This will be a great opportunity to not only learn more about these ministries but also how you can get involved. I hope that you will be able to join us and please invite a friend.*

Missionaries - India, Pastor Binu John

Ten years ago, Me and my wife made a commitment before God and people, to love, cherish and honor one another till death do us part! We are grateful to God for His leading thus far. My wife, coming from a Hindu home, is not used to serving God. She was very quiet, shy and humble but God has nurtured her to touch many lives through her testimony, hospitality, and prayer.

We are glad the Lord has added you in to our lives and ministry which is a huge blessing. Our journey is made easy through your prayers, encouragements and loving contributions.

The good Lord may bless you richly for your partnership with us to reach the lost. It means so much as we serve the Lord in hostile environments. **Just last week while we were sharing Gospel to a Hindu, he refused first and asked us to leave the spot immediately. We left, but this guy came around while we were at another home and warned, "Watch what I am going to do if you don't stop this."**

Please continue to uphold us in your prayers. Here by I attach our family picture - me and my wife (Suni) with our daughters, Abigail and Angel. God bless you. Thanks again!



(FCA) First Christian Assembly, 1900 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148
 (PAC) Philadelphia Access Center, 1832 S. 11th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19148

215-389-6721
 215-389-1985

The Philadelphia Access Center is a ministry of First Christian Assembly. Our mission is *revealing Christ through compassionate service*. Services available at PAC include social services information and referrals, biblical counseling, support groups, volunteer training, and community outreach. All services are free of charge and available to anyone. To learn more, visit us in person (across the street from FCA) or online at www.philaccess.org or www.facebook.com/philaccess.

WEEKLY SERVICES /MEETINGS

	FCA	PAC
Sunday	9:45 AM <i>Bible Study</i> 11:00 AM <i>Worship Service & Children's Sunday School</i>	
Monday		7:00 PM <i>Stepping Stones</i>
Tuesday	6:30 PM <i>Prayer (Sanctuary)</i> 7:00 PM <i>Worship (Sanctuary)</i>	
Wednesday	6:30 PM <i>Men's Fraternity (on hiatus)</i>	1:00 PM <i>Women at the Well</i> 1:00 PM <i>Coram Deo</i>
Thursday		6:00 PM <i>Prayer Service</i> 7:00 PM <i>Bible Study</i>
Friday		7:00 PM <i>Right Path</i>

- *Coram Deo*: A men's Bible study and Christian fellowship.
- *Right Path*: A Christ centered support and recovery group for people whose lives have been affected by drug and alcohol addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support and fellowship; in genuine confidential sharing, coupled with a Biblical twelve step model of recovery.
- *Stepping Stones*: A Christ centered support group for men and women impacted by a loved one's addiction. In a warm and friendly atmosphere, we provide loving support, fellowship, confidential sharing, and intercessory prayer.
- *Women at the Well*: This group is Biblically based and promotes hope, healing, and fellowship for women impacted and struggling with brokenness.



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Ministries (present and future) at First Christian Assembly and the Philadelphia Access Center
- Christians around the world being persecuted for their faith.
- Our supported missionaries
- For our Pastor and his family.

From: Voice of the Martyrs

Oct. 16, 2015 / West Bank: Pray for "Mahir," Sharing the Gospel

"Mahir," a Christian convert from Islam, recently led one of his friends to Christ after attending a training conference in Israel's West Bank. The VOM-sponsored conference focused on evangelism and sharing the love of Jesus with others. Mahir and others were challenged to put what they learned into action. Ministry partners asked us to pray that the new believer's family will come to know Christ, that the man's faith will grow stronger and that Mahir will continue to share Jesus with more of his friends in a difficult area.