Once, when the Israelites were in the wilderness, they came upon a man gathering wood on the Sabbath day. Those who found him as he was gathering wood brought him before Moses, Aaron, and the whole community. He was placed in custody, for it had not been specified what should be done to him. Then the Eternal said to Moses, “The man shall be put to death: the whole community shall pelt him with stones outside the camp.” So the whole community took him outside the camp and stoned him to death—as the Eternal had commanded Moses. The Eternal One said to Moses as follows: Speak to the Israelite people and instruct them to make for themselves fringes on the corners of their garments throughout the ages; let them attach a cord of blue to the fringe at each corner. That shall be your fringe; look at it and recall all the commandments of the Eternal and observe them, so that you do not follow your heart and eyes in you lustful urge. Thus you shall be reminded to observe all My commandments and to be holy to your God. I the Eternal am your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your God: I, the Eternal your God.
1. Joshua son of Nun secretly sent two spies from Shittim, saying, “Go, explore the countryside of Jericho!” When they got to Jericho, they came to the house of a prostitute named Rehab and stayed there.

2. Someone told the king of Jericho that some Israelites had come that night to spy out the country,

3. so he sent word to Rehab, “The men who have just arrived and are in your house have come to spy out the whole country; bring them out!”

4. But [instead] the woman had taken the two men and hidden them, so she answered, “Yes, indeed, the men did come to me, but I didn’t know where they were from.

5. They left as it was getting dark, just before the city gates were closed. I don’t know where they are going. But if you hurry after them, you can catch them.” a Actually, she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under some stalks of flax she had arranged herself.