

'Grace & Mercy' Jars – Craft

By Lt. Colonel Noelle Nelson

Rahab (Joshua 2) was a true 'Hero of the Faith' despite her job title (Harlot/Prostitute). In Biblical society we well know that a woman's value was hinged on who she was married to. Women were not accepted in the workforce and therefore could not earn their own income. A widow or spinster depended on the generosity of family and friends to provide for them. Unless, of course, one chose an 'alternative' business which brought in the dollars but tarnished a woman's reputation forever. Rahab was one such woman. But God is gracious and merciful and had other plans... BIG plans... for her! If you check out the genealogy shown in Matthew 1, you'll see in verse 5 that Rahab is listed as a direct ancestor of Jesus. What an honor to be a part of that lineage! God saw not what Rahab was, but who she would be as a new creation.



This craft will serve as a reminder that we are so much more than the labels others have placed upon us, or the labels we have given ourselves. Our good, gracious, and merciful God wants us to turn away from what the world may tell us we are, and embrace the truth of what He sees in us.

Gather your supplies and let's get started creating 'Gracy & Mercy' Jars!

Supplies needed:

- Clean, covered working surface
- Mason jar (any size)
- Colored tissue paper, torn into pieces (shown are Gold and Rose Gold Marbled) - **NOTE:** Make sure that you are using color-fast tissue paper since the MONO Aqua is a water-based glue. This will prevent the colors of tissues smearing and mixing on your project.

- Tombow MONO Aqua Liquid Glue (available in crafts stores, and on Amazon)
- Flat paintbrush
- Paper plate (for glue)
- Red cord (about 18")
- Gold button, medium size
- Glue gun
- Scissors
- 'God's Grace & Mercy' cards, printed and pre-cut (one set is 30 cards)



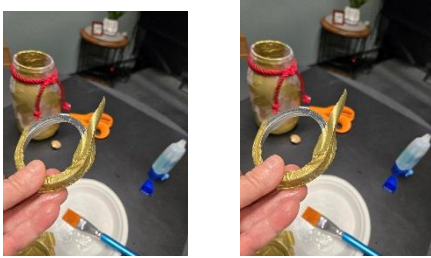
STEP ONE

To begin the 'Grace & Mercy' Jars, place a dollop of Tombow MONO Aqua Liquid Glue on a paper plate. Use a flat paintbrush to coat the outside of the mason jar. Apply torn pieces of tissue paper all over the jar, coating with additional MONO Aqua as you go. No need to be accurate, just tear and apply! Allow the jar to dry, which doesn't take long, as the MONO Aqua sets up quickly.



STEP TWO

While the jar is drying, repeat the process with the lid. It's fine if the pieces of tissue are a little big; once it dries you can snip the excess off with scissors.

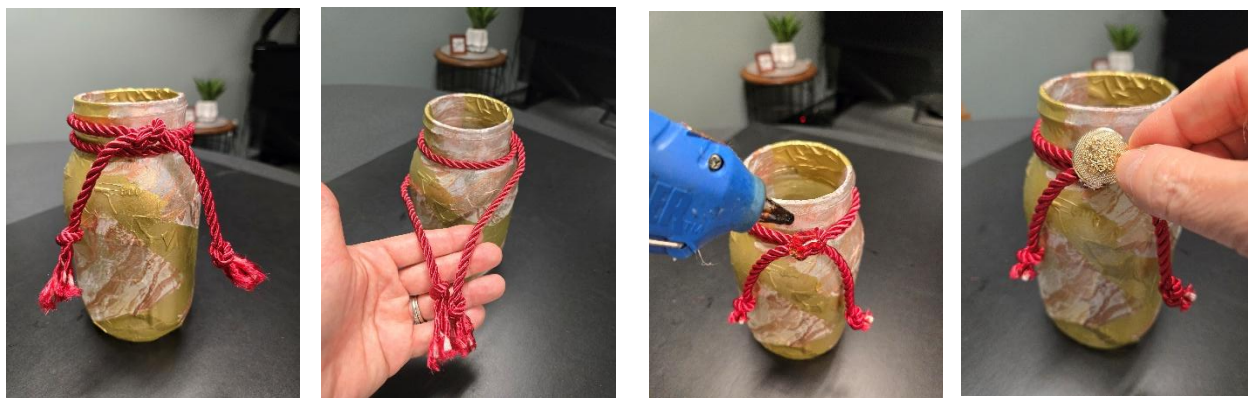


STEP THREE

Brush on a top coat of MONO Aqua to seal each jar. Don't worry, the MONO Aqua goes on glossy but dries to a nice satin finish.

STEP FOUR

Once dry, wrap the neck of each jar with red cord. The cord should wrap around twice for a nice overlap. Tie off with a knot. Tie off the ends with a knot to prevent fraying and trim. Use a hot glue gun to add a decorative button.



STEP FIVE

To finish the 'Grace & Mercy' Jars, fill the jars with 'God's Grace & Mercy' cards. Print and pre-cut the cards below, making a full set for each person. Each of the 30 cards states something the world may say about us, AND the truth of what GOD says. There's also a scripture passage to look up and read. Fold each one up and place in the jar. That's nearly enough to pull out one daily for a month, or when you need a bit of extra encouragement.

STEP SIX

Enjoy the 'Gracy & Mercy' Jar, or share it with someone else to enjoy!



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I can operate in my own strength. **The Truth:** It is God who supplies me with strength.
Psalm 28:7



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am a burden to others. **The Truth:** God uses others to help me carry my burdens.
Galatians 6:2



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: What has happened to me defines me. **The Truth:** Who I am in Christ defines me.
2 Corinthians 5:17



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: People think I am _____ (fill in the blank). **The Truth:** My identity is found in Christ,
not in the thoughts and opinions of others.
Proverbs 29:25



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am a failure. **The Truth:** God loves me and gives me His grace no matter how many
times I fail.
2 Corinthians 12:9



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: My worth is determined by what I do and how I do it. **The Truth:** I am not defined by what I
do but by what Christ has done for me.
Romans 8:16-17



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I cannot change. **The Truth:** Christ's grace and power provide me with true and lasting change.

2 Corinthians 3:18



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: What I am doing is meaningless. **The Truth:** Everything I do has meaning if I am in Christ.

Colossians 3:23-24



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am a bad parent or spouse. **The Truth:** When I feel guilty as a parent or spouse, I can rest in Christ's grace.

Romans 8:1-2



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: My circumstances will never change. **The Truth:** God controls and works through my circumstances for my good and His glory.

Romans 8:28



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: God is withholding good from me. **The Truth:** God withholds no good thing from those He loves.

Psalm 84:11



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: My past disqualifies me. **The Truth:** My past does not disqualify me because Christ's grace qualifies me.

1 Timothy 1:16



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am unworthy of love. **The Truth:** Even though I do not deserve God's love, He loves me still.

Romans 5:8



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I do not need the church. **The Truth:** The body of Christ is essential for every believer.

Hebrews 10:24-25



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: To be happy, I need the perfect house, car, family, etc. **The Truth:** My satisfaction is found in Christ alone.
Philippians 4:12-13



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I do not have enough time. **The Truth:** God gives me the time I need to do what is important.
Psalm 90:12



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I messed up God's plan for me. **The Truth:** My choices and failures cannot thwart God's plans for me.
Psalm 33:11



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: My feelings and emotions control and define me. **The Truth:** Who I am in Christ defines me most of all.
Galatians 2:20



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am unforgivable. **The Truth:** Whatever seems unforgivable to me remains forgivable in Christ.
1 John 1:9



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I cannot return to God if I have turned away from Him. **The Truth:** God will always welcome me back to Himself, no matter how far I have strayed.
Romans 8:37-39



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: Having a child makes me whole. **The Truth:** Christ's grace is the only thing I need for true joy, life, and salvation.
Ephesians 1:3



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: Everyone has it all together but me. **The Truth:** Our inability to have it all together propels us to rest in the only One who does.
Romans 3:23-24



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am in control of my life. **The Truth:** God is the One who is ultimately in control.
Proverbs 19:21



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I cannot do what God has called me to do. **The Truth:** What God has called me to do, He will equip me to accomplish.
Isaiah 41:10



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I am alone. **The Truth:** Because of God's presence with me, I am never alone.
Matthew 28:20b



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I cannot heal from my past or current pain. **The Truth:** God comforts me in my pain and has the power to heal my every wound.
Psalm 34:18



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I need to do what is best for me. **The Truth:** I am to put other people's needs before my own.

Philippians 2:3-4



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: What I have to say does not matter. **The Truth:** God has given me my voice to encourage, guide, and speak truth.

Proverbs 31:8-9



God's Grace & Mercy



The World says: I would be happier if I were more like _____. (fill in the blank). **The Truth:** God has made me intentionally, and who God has created me to be is not to be changed but celebrated.

Psalms 139:14