

L7 JERICHO

Objective: God's way is perfect.

Key verse: "As for God, His way is perfect." 2 Sam 22:31a

Review: Who did the spies meet in the city of Jericho? *Rahab* How did she help them? *She hid them from the soldiers.* What did the spies promise Rahab in return for her kindness? *They promised that she would be safe when they came to take the city.* What did she have to do to be saved? *Tie a red cord in her window and bring all of her family inside her house with her.* The red cord makes us think of Jesus' blood. He has saved us through His death. He also has gathered us together in Him so that we are saved. Our verse last time was, "And we are in Him who is true," I Jn 5:20b.

Introduction:

The spies returned to Joshua and told Joshua that all of the people of Jericho were very afraid. The people of Israel were encouraged. They believed that God was giving them the land. Now it was time for a battle plan. How would they go in and take the city? The city wall surrounded by big walls, with no way to get in. The people probably weren't sure what to do, but God had a plan.

God gave Joshua some very interesting instructions. They weren't going to climb the walls and sneak in. They weren't going to try to break through the walls. They were going to march around the walls of Jericho and on the seventh day the walls were going to just fall down! Yes, that's what God told Joshua: "March around the walls of Jericho one time each day for six days. The men of war and seven priests carrying the ark of the covenant are to march. Then, on the seventh day, march around the city seven times. Have the priests blow their horns, and then have all of the people shout. The walls of Jericho will fall down flat."

Can marching and shouting really make the walls of a city fall down? Do you think it's going to work? Marching and shouting doesn't make walls fall down, but the people of Israel had the Lord. If He told them what to do, and told them what would happen, I think it's going to happen because we learned that God's Word is true.

Let's see what happens... Joshua called to the priests and told them to carry the ark of the covenant and to let seven priests carry seven ram's horns. He told the men of war to march with them while the priests blew their trumpets. So they marched around the city of Jericho once and then returned to camp. The next day, early in the morning, the priests and men of war marched around the city again. And the next day they did it again. They did this for six days. Then, on the seventh day, they marched around Jericho six times. Then, after the seventh time, Joshua said to the people, "Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!" So the priests blew their horns and the people shouted, and the walls came down.

Conclusion:

All of the city was destroyed, but Rahab and her family were saved. God did what He said He would do- He gave them the city. Even though His way seemed strange- marching and shouting and blowing horns- the Bible says that His way is perfect (2 Sam 22:31a). The people believed His Word. They were strong in the Lord. They knew God was with them, and they won the battle at Jericho. Our verse today is, "As for God, His way is perfect." 2 Sam 22:31a

Review:

What did God tell Israel to do to make the walls of Jericho fall down? *To march and blow trumpets once a day for six days, then on the seventh day to march seven times and give a shout.* Did God's way work? "As for God, His way is perfect," 2 Sam 22:31a.

Activity:

Build a fortress with blocks. Re-enact the marching and blowing trumpets. "Sleep" between each day, then march again and blow trumpets. On the seventh day, march seven times, then give a shout. Knock the fortress over. (Remind the children that God made the walls fall down without any help from the Israelites).

(Veggie Tales movie)

Song: Joshua fought the Battle (traditional song, with new lyrics for the verses)

Chorus: Joshua fought the Battle of Jericho, Jericho, Jericho
Joshua fought the Battle of Jericho and the walls came tumbling down

Salvation's in the name of Joshua
The people believed God's Word
"Be strong," said the Lord to Joshua
At the Battle of Jericho

"Do not be afraid," said Joshua
God's with us wherever we go.
Be strong and courageous
At the Battle of Jericho

Now Joshua is a type of Jesus Christ
The Spirit shows it's true
In Christ he fought the Battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumbling down