



MOSAIC Gospel Project

Volume 3, Unit 8, Lesson 2: The Battle of Jericho

Bible Passage: Joshua 2; 6

Personal Preparation

The Lord brought his people into the promised land. Now, they had a task set before them: conquer the people living in the land. Before the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, Joshua—in the way Moses had done decades before—sent scouts into the land (see Num. 13:2-3). The first city the Israelites came to was Jericho. God told Joshua that he had handed the city over to Israel.

The Lord's reputation went ahead of the Israelites, creating fear in the people of Jericho. With the exception of one woman, the people of Jericho wanted nothing to do with God.

Rahab was unique among the inhabitants of Jericho. She wanted to be on God's side. Hebrews 11:31 says that by faith, Rahab "welcomed the spies in peace." Rahab didn't hide the spies and help them escape from the city because she was especially courageous or because she had a strong desire to live; Rahab acted by faith. She trusted God to keep his promises to his people.

She wasn't the only one. The Israelites fought the battle of Jericho by faith (see Heb. 11:30). Israel did not focus on what was going on inside the city of Jericho; they focused on doing what God had instructed. They obeyed even when it seemed nothing was happening. On the seventh day, the troops shouted, the trumpets sounded, and the wall around Jericho collapsed.

Joshua gave the people specific instructions to destroy everything in the city except for Rahab and her family. The Israelites were not to

keep anything for themselves. The Lord would provide for all of their needs, so they had no reason to plunder Jericho. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe. They joined God's people (Josh. 6:25). By faith, we believe Jesus has defeated sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God's family forever.

As you prepare to teach this lesson, thank God that he is worthy of our trust. Thank him for his faithfulness to the Israelites, to Rahab, and to us in providing Jesus as a Savior for our sin. Reflect on how you have seen the Lord's faithfulness in your life, and praise him for it. Pray that the individuals would know God's faithfulness and that they would put their trust in Jesus.

Memory Verse

Start the lesson by reviewing the memory verse with the group.

Deuteronomy 31:8

"Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; he will neither fail you nor abandon you."

Points of Emphasis

1. God brought down the walls of Jericho.
2. We can glorify God by loving him and obeying him.

Activity #1

Guide the group to begin working on the activity sheet. Feel free to let them continue as you teach the lesson.

Video

Last week, we learned that God held back the Jordan River for his people to cross. The Israelites were finally trusting him to move into the land he promised, and he blessed them by helping them cross into the land. This week, we will learn about the first major battle the people had to fight, against a city called Jericho. So it makes sense that our story is called “The Battle of Jericho.”

Play the video for the lesson titled “The Battle of Jericho.”

Bible Lesson

God is so creative and amazing! I love how he prepared the heart of Rahab. She heard about God and trusted in him. You know it was no coincidence that the spies ended up at Rahab’s house. Her quick thinking saved their lives, and they, in turn, saved her life and the lives of her family. Talk about your unexpected but impactful friendships! In fact, God honored Rahab centuries later. In the first chapter of Matthew, her name is listed in the family line of Jesus! That’s pretty special.

And we can’t forget about God’s surprising battle plan: silently marching around the city for six days and then seven times on the seventh day. You know that must have been hard for the Israelites and very confusing for the people of Jericho. The people must have thought those Israelites had lost their minds. But the Israelites were obedient to God’s plan, even when it didn’t make sense. They just kept moving forward in faith. When they were finally able to shout, God brought down the walls of Jericho.

Another amazing miracle! God received all the glory as those walls fell down. How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving him and obeying him.

Activity #2

Guide the group to finish working on the activity sheets. Review the memory verse with the individuals. Help them practice it and learn it. Encourage them to write the memory verse using the Velcro pictures.

Christ Connection

The story of Rahab and Jericho is a small example of what Jesus has done for us. By faith, Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to show mercy to her family and keep them safe. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family received mercy and became part of God’s people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus receives mercy and becomes part of God’s family forever.

Review Questions

(Optional: Watch today’s Questions from Kids (QFK) video to continue the discussion on the Battle of Jericho. Today’s episode asks if God will still accept us into his family even though we’ve made bad choices.)

Group A

Early Learner

Encourage the individuals to point to the pictures provided or to draw in order to answer these questions.

1. **Point to who helped the Israelite spies because she trusted in God.** Rahab
2. **Point to who spared Rahab because of her faith.** The Israelites; God
3. **Point to who marched around Jericho for seven days.** The Israelites
4. **Point to who brought down the walls of Jericho.** God

Group B

1. **Why did Rahab help the Israelite spies?** She had faith that God is the one true God and he would give Israel victory.
2. **What was God’s plan to defeat Jericho?** The Israelites would march around the city for seven days playing trumpets. They

would finally shout, and then the walls would fall.

3. **Did God's plan work?** Yes, his people conquered Jericho and Rahab's family was spared.
4. **Why do you think God's strategy was so different from human battle strategies?** When God does things in a way that no human could do without him, it proves his power and might. God does things we cannot to remind us that we need him.
5. **Why do you think Rahab's story is included in the Bible?** God loves all people, not just Israelites. Rahab had faith that God is the one true God and would give his people victory. God saved Rahab and her family and even used Rahab to be a part of Jesus' family line.
6. **How can we practice trusting God and having faith in him?** Guide the individuals to talk about some of the scary, sad, or frustrating situations they may face. Remind them that we can face those situations by trusting in God and remembering the hope we have through Jesus. Help them see that we can pray for help and have faith that God is working things for his glory and our good.

Group C

1. **Who showed faith in today's Bible story? How can we show faith?** Faith is a strong belief or trust in someone or something. Joshua, the Israelites, and Rahab showed faith by trusting God even when they didn't understand his plan. We can show faith by trusting God and obeying him even when we don't completely understand his ways.
2. **How did God's plan for the Israelites to take over Jericho bring him glory?** Lead the individuals to discuss the surprising strategy of marching around the city. On their own, the Israelites could not have knocked down the walls. God was with his people and gave them victory. Glory belonged to God, not to Israel's army.
3. **How does God fight for us today?** Guide the group to discuss how God intervened in Israel's battles. He can intervene in a situation today, but he often fights for us

in ways we don't expect. Encourage the individuals to trust that God is at work for his glory and our good, even when he seems silent. We may face problems in life, but our confidence is in Jesus, who defeated sin and death once and for all.

Group D

Advanced Learner

1. **What does this story teach us about God?** God is completely in control! Rahab heard about God and trusted in him. It was not a coincidence that the spies ended up at Rahab's house. Her quick thinking saved their lives, and they, in turn, saved her and her family. In fact, God honored Rahab centuries later. In the first chapter of Matthew, Rahab's name is listed in the family line of Jesus!
2. **What was surprising about God's battle plan?** God told Joshua and his army to silently march around the city for six days and then seven times on the seventh day. That had to have been hard for the Israelites and very confusing for the people of Jericho. The people must have thought those Israelites had lost their minds. But the Israelites were obedient to God's plan, even when it didn't make sense. They just kept moving forward in faith. When they finally shouted, God brought down the walls of Jericho.
3. **Why does God accept us?**
4. **Who can you invite into God's family?**

Prayer

Father, your love is amazing. It stretches beyond what we can imagine. You save sinners who do not deserve to be saved. Thank you for being good to us. Help us to love you and obey you because we want our lives to give you the glory you deserve. Amen.

