

# May 17, 2020 PreK

**Bible Passage:** The Battle of Jericho / Joshua 2; 6

**Story Point:** God made the walls of Jericho fall down.

**Key Passage/Memory Verse:** “The Lord...will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. ” Deuteronomy 31:8 ESV

**Big Picture Question:** How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

**Christ Connection:** *By faith Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to keep her safe. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God’s people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God’s family forever*

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## \* **BIBLE STUDY TIPS FOR PARENTS:**

Parents- here’s a preview of what we’ll be studying in the Fall as a church 😊

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.

### **\* BIBLE STORY:**

Turn to Joshua 2 with the help of your preschooler.

**Say** • We know that the entire Bible is true. Everything in the Bible really happened a long time ago. Today's story is in Joshua which is in the Old Testament. Remind children that all the stories in the Bible fit together to tell an even bigger story. The Bible tells us the big story of how God rescues sinners through His Son, Jesus.

***Show the video or tell the Bible story using the provided storytelling tips. Use the bolded version of the Bible story for young preschoolers.***

#### **The Battle of Jericho: *Joshua 2; 6***

**The Israelites finally got to the promised land of Canaan (KAY nuhn), but** there was one problem: other people were living there. God's people couldn't just walk in and set up their tents. **They had to go to battle against the people, and they had to win.**

Before God's people went into the land, **Joshua sent two spies into the city of Jericho. The spies stayed at the house of a woman named Rahab (RAY hab). Rahab lived in Jericho, but she had heard about God and wanted to help His people. She hid the spies on her roof so the king of Jericho could not find them.**

**When it was safe for the spies to leave, Rahab said, "Please be kind to my family because I have been kind to you. When you attack Jericho, please keep us safe." So the spies agreed, and they left Jericho. Rahab tied a bright red rope in her window so the Israelites would know where she lived.**

**Jericho had strong walls on every side, and nobody could go in or out. God told Joshua how to win against the people of Jericho. "March around the city one time each day for six days," God said. "On the seventh day, march around the city seven times. The priests should blow the trumpets, and all the people should shout. Then the walls of Jericho will fall down."**

**Joshua obeyed God.** He commanded the people to carry the ark of the covenant and march around the city. The priests blew their trumpets. They marched around the city one time. The Israelites were very quiet so no one inside the city would know they were there. On the second day, they marched quietly around the city again. They did this every day for six days.

**On the seventh day, the Israelites** got up early and **marched around the city seven times. When the priests blew their trumpets, Joshua said, “Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!” So the people shouted, and the wall fell down flat. The Israelites went into the city and captured it.** They destroyed everything in the city, **but the two spies kept Rahab and her family safe.**

**Christ Connection:** *By faith Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to keep her safe. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God’s people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God’s family forever.*

**SAY** • By faith Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to keep her safe. Joshua and the Israelites marched around Jericho just like God told them to do, and **God made the walls of Jericho fall down.** When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God’s people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God’s family forever.

### **KEY PASSAGE**

**Key Passage:** “The Lord...will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you.”  
Deuteronomy 31:8 ESV

**SAY** • Rahab believed that God would win the battle, and God kept her family safe. God did not leave or abandon her family, and He will not leave or abandon us. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God’s family forever.

Our big picture question asks, ***How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.*** The word *glorify* means to show how great God is. When we love and obey God, we show the world how amazing He is!

\* **PRAYER:** God, thank you that you are always with us. You never leave us. We’re so glad that we can talk to you anytime and you will help us. Thank you that when we trust in you, we can become part of your family forever. We love you, Jesus! Amen!

### \* **ACTIVITIES:**

**1. ACTIVITY PAGE & COLORING PAGE:** Guide the preschoolers to draw a line connecting each object to its other half.  
Have the preschooler color the coloring page of the walls of Jericho falling down.

**Say:** • Good job finding the other half of each object. In today's Bible story we heard about an amazing battle where God used trumpets to win for His people! The walls of Jericho fell down! God can do anything!

## **2. JERICHO MARCH**

Walk around your house or around a certain room in your house 7 times. On the 7<sup>th</sup> time pretend to blow a trumpet together and shout!

**SAY** • On the seventh day, the Israelites followed the instructions God gave to Joshua and got up early and marched around the city seven times. When the priests blew their trumpets, Joshua said, "Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!" So the people shouted, and the wall fell down flat. God can do anything!

## **3. SPY A BALL**

Set three matching cups on a table. Place a ball under one cup. Encourage preschoolers to watch closely as you move the cups around. Stop moving the cups, and invite a child to guess which cup is hiding the ball. Lift each cup to reveal the ball's location. Start out by moving the cups slowly. As preschoolers catch on, move the cups faster to add difficulty.

**Say** • Was it hard to pick out which cup the ball was hidden under? In our Bible story, Rahab hid the Israelite spies on her roof so the king of Jericho could not find them. Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to keep her safe. **God made the walls of Jericho fall down**, and the Israelites attacked Jericho. Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God's people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God's family forever.

## **4. FIND THE SPIES**

Have your child have his/her eyes closed while you hide two toy figures together in the room. Invite the child to turn around and find the figures. Help by saying hot or cold to indicate how close the child is to the figures.

**Say:** • Rahab lived in Jericho, but she had heard about God and wanted to help His people. She hid the spies on her roof so the king of Jericho could not find them. **God made the walls of Jericho fall down**. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God's people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God's family forever.

## **REVIEW QUESTIONS:**

- How many spies did Joshua send into the city of Jericho? (*two*)
- How did Rahab help the spies? (*She hid the spies on her roof so the king of Jericho could not find them.*)
- How many days did Joshua and the Israelites march around Jericho? (*seven days*)
- How many times did Joshua and the Israelites march around Jericho on the seventh day? (*seven times*)
- ***How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.***