

# Joshua

By Mark Cucias

This year, I really loved when we learned about Joshua because he loved and obeyed God. Joshua was chosen by God to lead Israel into the promised land. When God chose Joshua, he said to him, Joshua, the son of Nun, Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over the Jordan, you and all these people, into the land that I have given to them, to the people of Israel. And Joshua obeyed.

After that, God said to Joshua, Every place that the sole of your foot treads upon I have given to you. God told Joshua that he would not leave you or forsake you. When I thought about this, I thought Joshua really loved God, so much that he did all that God told him to do.

Then God told Joshua to cause these people to inherit the land that I have sworn to give to your fathers. And in chapter 6, they took down Jericho, but not by the edge of the sword or by their strategy, or that Jericho was weak, because it was not weak, it was feared because of its power, but by the hand of God, Israel took down Jericho. So when I thought about this, I got reminded that God is almighty, and there is proof in the Bible because when Israel worshiped God, they overcame more powerful people.

But when Achan sinned, and 3,000 of the men of Israel went to attack Ai, a small town with a population of about 12,000, but that is all the people, not the men, that fought, and when Israel attacked, the men of Ai killed about thirty-six of the men of Israel. Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the Lord until evening, he and the elders of Israel.

I loved this whole story because Joshua was the assistant of Moses, and God picked Joshua to lead Israel to the land of Canaan. One of the cities they defeated was Jericho. With God on their side, they won without fighting. God just made the walls fall down; it was a miracle. And they won all the battles when God was blessing them. But when Achan sinned, they lost to a small village of a population of about twelve thousand people, and they fought them with an army of three thousand men, and they lost thirty men because God was not blessing them. And then God told Joshua that they had taken some devoted things, they had stolen and lied, and put them among their own belongings. Then God told Joshua to have Israel come tribe by tribe, then clan by clan, and then God would narrow it down to household, and then who took the devoted things would be burned with fire and all that he has. And Joshua did as God told him, and Achan took the devoted things, and they burned him and all his belongings. And I loved the lesson so much because it tells that God takes sin seriously.