

UNIT 7 | SESSION 2

# CONQUERING JERICO

JOSHUA 2-4; 6

Splash 4/13/25



**KEY PASSAGE:** Psalm 24:8

**BIG PICTURE QUESTION:** Why can we trust God? We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.

**CHRIST CONNECTION:** God's people could not bring down Jericho's walls in their own power. They trusted God and were victorious. We cannot defeat sin and death in our own power. When we trust in Jesus, we are saved from sin and death.

**STORY POINT:** Joshua and the Israelites trusted God to defeat Jericho.



## PREPARE

### PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## LEADER Bible Study

After the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they faced their next obstacle in the Promised Land: capturing the city of Jericho. Though Jericho was strongly fortified, God promised to hand over the city to His people. Only by trusting in God could the Israelites experience victory against Jericho.

How do we see God's faithful provision amid the battle of Jericho? How does this story foreshadow an even greater victory for those who profess faith in Jesus?

God promised His people the land of Canaan, and God was faithful to remind Joshua of the victory that lay before him: "Look, I have handed Jericho, its king, and its best soldiers over to you" (Joshua 6:2). Then God once again gave His people the instructions they needed to follow—instructions that displayed faith in action.

An unlikely battle plan of walking, being silent, and then shouting revealed the power of God, who fights for His people and gives them victory. The Israelites brought nothing to this battle except their obedient faith, which they are commended for in Hebrews 11:30. The Israelites' victory over Jericho was not of their own accord but a result of the faith they placed in the God of their salvation. Likewise, the rescue of Rahab and her family came not through her own power but by the faith she placed in the God of Israel.

Like the Israelites, we bring nothing to the table except our need for God's saving grace. Yet by trusting in the Lord's power to save us through faith in His Son, His victory is our reward.

Help boys and girls see the power of God at work in this story, as well as in their own lives—that God has the power to break the walls of sin and deliver us into the kingdom of His Son. Pray that the children in your care will trust in Jesus for His gift of salvation.



## PREPARE

### THE WEEK PRIOR

Prepare your heart to teach;  
plan the session



## WELCOME

### 10-15 MINUTES

Greet kids  
and open  
the session



## LEARN

### 25-30 MINUTES

Teach kids  
the story of  
the gospel



## LOVE

### 15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to  
love the God of  
the gospel



## LIVE

### 15-20 MINUTES

Lead kids to live  
out the mission  
of the gospel



## PREPARE

PRIOR TO TEACHING THE SESSION

## GATHER Supplies

Keep a regular supply of the following items available at all times: Bibles, pens or pencils, markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, glue or tape, paper.



### WELCOME

#### Activity Page

- ☐ "God Saves" activity page

#### Session Starter (Option 1)

- ☐ cardboard boxes, cardboard blocks, wooden blocks, or empty tissue boxes

#### Session Starter (Option 2)

- ☐ red balls of yarn, 2



### LOVE

#### Review & Bible Skills

- ☐ Small Group Timeline and Map Set



### LIVE

#### Activity Choice (Option 1)

- ☐ party horns, 1 per kid
- ☐ empty cardboard tubes, paper towel size; 1 per kid
- ☐ masking tape
- ☐ paint
- ☐ paintbrushes, 1 per kid

#### Activity Choice (Option 2)

- ☐ sticky notes, 9

#### Reflection and Prayer

- ☐ Bible Story Coloring Page (optional)



### LEARN

#### Introduce the Session

- ☐ countdown video
- ☐ Story Point Poster

#### Big Picture Question

- ☐ Big Picture Question Poster

#### Review the Timeline

- ☐ Giant Timeline

#### Tell the Bible Story

- ☐ "Conquering Jericho" video
- ☐ Bible Story Picture Poster

#### Questions from Kids

- ☐ "Unit 7, Session 2" Questions from Kids video

#### Missions Moment

- ☐ world map
- ☐ "Mission Work Photo" printable

#### Key Passage Activity

- ☐ Key Passage Poster
- ☐ "Who Is (Psalm 24:8)" song
- ☐ worship song of your choice (optional)
- ☐ dominoes





## WELCOME Kids

Greet each kid as he or she arrives. Use this time to collect the offering, fill out attendance sheets, build relationships, and help new kids connect to your group.

**SAY** “Have you ever tried to do something on your own but couldn’t do it? What? Did you ask anyone for help? Who?”

### 1 ACTIVITY PAGE (5 minutes)

Invite kids to complete “God Saves” activity page.

**SAY** “Today, we will hear a story about how God gave His people victory over a city called Jericho. We’ll also see how a woman named Rahab trusted God and helped some of God’s people.”

### 2 SESSION STARTER (10 minutes)

#### ☐ OPTION 1: BRING THE WALLS DOWN

Invite kids to set up a circular wall using cardboard boxes, wooden blocks or large cardboard blocks, or empty tissue boxes. Then guide kids to march around the walls as quietly as they can. Tell kids that when you make a trumpet sound with your mouth, they can knock the wall down and shout. Repeat the activity, allowing different kids to make the trumpet sound.

**SAY** “Today, we will learn about a city named Jericho that had huge walls. In fact, the walls were so big that people could build a home inside of them. Yet, the strength of the walls was no match for the power of God. We’ll see how **JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES TRUSTED GOD TO DEFEAT JERICO**. God led His people to march around the city, and at just the right time, God brought the walls tumbling down.”

#### ☐ OPTION 2: PASS THE CORD



Form kids into two teams and provide each team with a red ball of yarn. Guide each team to form a line. Tell teams that the first kid from each team will hold on to a string of the yarn as they pass the ball of yarn through their legs to the kid behind them. Then direct the next kid to pass the ball of yarn over their head to the kid behind them. Direct kids to continue passing the ball of yarn in this under and over fashion until the yarn reaches the last kid in the line. The team to reach the last kid first wins. Repeat, allowing a new kid to be the line leader.

**SAY** “This ball of red yarn reminds me of our Bible story. Today, we will learn how a woman named Rahab helped save her family through a red cord she hung from her window. We’ll see that her faith in God saved both her and her family.”

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





## INTRODUCE the Bible Story

### 1 INTRODUCE THE SESSION (3 minutes)

Show the countdown video as you transition to introduce the Bible story. Set it to end as the session begins.

**SAY** “Welcome, kids! My name is [your name], and today we will continue to read from the book of Joshua. If you have a Bible with you, will you hold it up high? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Today, we will see how the Israelites have reached the city of Jericho in the Promised Land, but they cannot defeat the city on their own. They need the help of the Lord. As we hear our story today, we’ll be reminded of how **JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES TRUSTED GOD TO DEFEAT JERICO.** [Display the Story Point Poster.]

Let’s pray for God to help us hear the truth of His Word: ‘Dear God, thank You for the opportunity to come and learn more about You. Please prepare our hearts as we read true stories from Your Word and how You worked in the lives of Joshua and the Israelites. Amen.’ ”

### 2 BIG PICTURE QUESTION (1 minute)

Display the Big Picture Question Poster.

**SAY** “Who can remind me of our big picture question we learned last week? [Allow responses.] Our big picture question is, why can we trust God? [Allow responses.] The answer we learned is, we can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good. Let’s say the answer one more time: we can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.

Everything God does is to show how amazing, great, worthy, and magnificent He is. Everything God does is perfect, right, and good. A perfect God cannot lie. So, we can also trust that He works for the good of those who love Him. Today, we will see how God’s people trusted Him and were saved from their enemies. ”

### 3 REVIEW THE TIMELINE (1 minute)

Show the Giant Timeline. Point to individual Bible stories as you review.

**SAY** “Together we have learned that God chose Joshua to be the new leader of His people. Joshua courageously led the people across the Jordan River because he trusted that God would make a way. And He did! God was faithful to stop the river so the Israelites could pass through on dry ground. Today, we will see how Joshua trusted that God had a plan to defeat Jericho and deliver the Israelites into the land of Canaan. ”

\* Battle belongs  
\* Spirit of the Living God  
\* offering

Worship



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

## LEARN the Bible Story



### 1 TELL THE BIBLE STORY: VIDEO OR STORYTELLER (10 minutes)

Open your Bible to Joshua 2-4; 6. Use the Bible storytelling tips to help you tell the story, or show the Bible story video "Conquering Jericho." Use the bold text to retell or review the story.

### CONQUERING JERICHO

“After God’s people crossed the Jordan River, God promised to give them the city of Jericho. **The city of Jericho had huge walls and was well protected. Joshua sent two spies to learn more about the city. When the people in Jericho heard that spies from Israel were there, they tried to find and capture them.**

**The spies met a woman named Rahab. She hid the Israelites in her house and sent away the men looking for them. Then, she went to the spies and said, “I know the LORD has given you this land. Everyone knows it. All of Jericho is scared. We heard how the LORD did amazing things for you, like parting the Red Sea. He is a powerful God! Since I showed kindness to you, please show kindness to me and my family. When the Israelite army comes, promise to keep us safe from death.”**

**The spies told her to hang a red cord from her window as a sign to God’s people. Anyone inside the house with the red cord in the window would be safe from the battle. The men returned to Joshua and said, “The LORD has given the entire land to us.”**

When the entire Israelite army came to Jericho, **God spoke to Joshua: “I have given Jericho, its king, and its army over to you.” Then He gave specific instructions on how the Israelites were to defeat this city and its great walls.** Joshua trusted God and led the people to follow God’s instructions exactly as He said. Here is what they did:

**Each day for six days, God’s people walked silently around the city.** Seven priests carrying trumpets played their instruments, but everyone else was silent. **On the seventh day, they marched around the city not once, but seven times. On the seventh time, the priests blew the trumpets, and Joshua told the people to shout! When the people shouted, the walls fell down, and God’s people conquered the city. All the people of Jericho were defeated, but Rahab and her family were saved.**

Christ Connection: God’s people could not bring down Jericho’s walls in their own power. They trusted God and were victorious. We cannot defeat sin and death in our own power. When we trust in Jesus, we are saved from sin and death. ”

### STORYTELLING TIPS

**Active listening:** Invite kids to shout when the people shout in the story.

**Discuss it:** Tell kids that Rahab was part of Jesus’ family lineage. Discuss how God saved Rahab, a non-Israelite, and used her to be part of His plan to bring Jesus into the world.



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

## 2 REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

**SAY** 🗣️ God said He would give His people the land of Canaan—also known as the Promised Land. But God's people knew they would not be able to conquer the city of Jericho on their own. So when Joshua sent spies into the city, God provided Rahab. She helped hide the spies safely in her home. Do you remember what Rahab requested in return? [Allow responses.] She asked the spies to protect her and her family. What did the spies tell Rahab to hang out her window? [Allow responses.] The Israelites told Rahab to hang a red cord out her window as a sign to God's people. When they saw the red cord, Rahab would be protected.

Rahab recognized God was strong and mighty because of everything she heard He had done for the Israelites. We can also trust that God is strong and mighty in our lives because He has shown how His character is unchanging.

When the Israelites reached the walls of Jericho, God spoke to Joshua and told Him how to defeat the city of Jericho. **JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES TRUSTED GOD TO DEFEAT JERICO.** After six days of marching around the city's walls, the seventh day finally arrived. What was special about God's instructions on the seventh day? [Allow responses.] On the seventh day, God's people marched around the city seven times. When the priests gave a long horn blast after walking around the city for a seventh time, the people shouted, and the walls fell down. Blowing horns and shouting isn't normally powerful enough to bring walls down, especially large, thick city walls like Jericho had. God acted for His people, just like He did at the Red Sea and the Jordan River. God's power brought down the walls, and He gave His people victory.

God's people could not bring down Jericho's walls in their own power. They trusted God and were victorious. We cannot defeat sin and death in our own power. When we trust in Jesus, we are saved from sin and death. 🙏

## 3 GOSPEL DISCUSSION

**SAY** 🗣️ Joshua and the Israelites trusted that God would defeat their enemies just as He promised. The Bible explains that we are sinners because we have all turned away from God. But God has defeated our enemy, sin, through the death and resurrection of His Son, Jesus! To learn more about what it means to trust your life to Jesus, you can talk to one of your leaders. 🗣️ Gospel poster

(Tip: Create an environment where kids are welcome to ask questions about what it means to follow Jesus.)

## 4 QUESTIONS FROM KIDS (3 minutes)

Show the "Unit 7, Session 2" Questions from Kids video. Prompt kids to discuss:

1. Why do we have to trust in God?
2. Do you trust God? Have you trusted in His Son, Jesus, to save you from sin and death?



## LEARN

### THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

#### 5 MISSIONS MOMENT (3 minutes) (Optional - No video)

**SAY** 🌿 South Asia has fast-growing cities, but it also has many villages in the countryside. [Point to South Asia on a world map.] Sometimes receiving medical help in South Asia can be challenging. In one village, the closest hospital is 15 miles away. A South Asian Christian doctor the people call 'Lucky' is helping the people in this village with their medical needs and telling them about Jesus. 🌿

Display the "Mission Work Photo" printable. Tell kids that Lucky learned about Jesus from missionaries while he was studying to be a doctor, and he trusted in Jesus to be his Savior. Tell kids that Cordy Lowe is a missionary in South Asia. He partners with Lucky to tell people about Jesus in rural communities. Explain that Lucky has attended many trainings Cordy and his wife, Elise, have hosted to help him and others learn how to share the gospel. Explain that Lucky feels called by God to start a new church and to open a small clinic in his home village. Lucky wants to help the people with their physical needs as a doctor and help them to know about Jesus. Pray for Lucky and the Lowes as they continue to share the good news of Jesus with people in South Asia.

#### 6 KEY PASSAGE ACTIVITY (5 minutes)

Before the session, print or write the key passage in bold letters on a piece of construction paper. Cut out each word of the passage and tape them onto domino blocks. Show the Key Passage Poster. Lead kids in reading aloud Psalm 24:8 together.

**SAY** 🌿 God showed His might and power to the Israelites by defeating the city of Jericho. We are reminded that He is mighty to fight for His people! 🌿

Scatter the dominoes on the floor and instruct the kids to gather around them. Explain that they will need to stand up each domino in the correct order of the key passage. Encourage kids to make a wall with the dominoes like the wall that surrounded Jericho. Then lead the class to say the key passage aloud together. Invite kids to knock down the dominoes, reminding them how God was strong and mighty to defeat Jericho's walls.

Lead kids to sing "Who Is (Psalm 24:8)." You may also choose to sing a worship song of your choice.

#### 7 PRAY (2 minutes)

Invite kids to pray before transitioning to Love.

**SAY** 🌿 God, thank You for reminding us that You are strong and mighty in battle. Help us boldly share the gospel with others, knowing You go with us every day. Amen. 🌿

Transition from **LEARN** to **LOVE**







THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

## LOVE God by Applying the Story

### 1 REVIEW & BIBLE SKILLS (5 minutes)

Distribute Bibles and display the Old Testament Kingdoms Map. Guide kids to open their Bibles to Joshua 2. Explain that Rahab was not an Israelite, but through faith in God, she became part of the Israelite community. Tell kids that, like Rahab, we are welcomed into God's family when we trust in Jesus.

Consider pointing out the location of Jericho (H6) on the Old Testament Kingdoms Map. Choose a volunteer to read aloud Joshua 2:9-12 or ask the kids to follow along as you read the verses aloud.

**SAY** 🗨️ Rahab heard all the mighty acts God had done for His people. She trusted God and knew He is the one true God. She asked the spies to show kindness by saving her and her family from death. Rahab's faith in God reminds us of how we can trust God. **We can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.** Most of all, God has acted for our good through His Son, Jesus. Jesus saves us from our sin and eternal death. 🙏

### 2 GROUP DISCUSSION (10 minutes)

Ask the following questions. Lead the group to discuss.

**SAY** 🗨️ Was it the people's marching and shouting that brought down the walls of Jericho? Why not? Who brought down the walls? 🙏

Discuss how the Israelites obeyed the commands God gave to Joshua by marching around the city walls. But it wasn't the Israelites who brought the walls down. Tell kids that marching and shouting doesn't bring down walls. Remind kids that God brought down the walls through His power. Remind kids that victory over sin only comes through faith in God's power to save people through His Son, Jesus.

**SAY** 🗨️ Hebrews 11:31 says that Rahab showed faith in God when she welcomed the spies. Why were her actions an act of faith? 🙏

Tell kids that Rahab was willing to be identified with the people of God rather than her own people. Discuss how if Rahab was caught by the people of Jericho, she would most likely face terrible consequences. Share how Rahab trusted God more than the consequences she might face. Tell kids that Rahab was rewarded for her faith and was part of Jesus' family lineage.

**SAY** 🗨️ The Israelites couldn't defeat Jericho in their own power. Why can't we defeat sin in our own power? 🙏

Prompt kids to recall how God requires absolute perfection because He is perfect. Tell kids that no matter how hard we try, we will never be perfect because all people sin. Discuss how Jesus lived a perfect life for us, died for our sin, and rose from the dead to give us victory.

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**





## THE STORY OF THE GOSPEL

### LIVE the Mission

#### 1 ACTIVITY CHOICE (10 minutes)

##### ☐ OPTION 1: MAKE A HORN

Before the session, gather party horns and empty cardboard tubes, paper towel size, for each kid. Using scissors, direct the kids to cut the cardboard tube from top to bottom, lengthwise. Assist kids in wrapping the cardboard into a cone shape. Make sure the smaller end of the cone is the right size for the party horn to be inserted. Allow for the mouthpiece of the party horn to hang outside the cone. Then secure the cone using masking tape with the party horn inside. Finally, provide kids with paint or markers to decorate their horns. Invite kids to march around the room seven times and then instruct them to blow their horns.

**SAY** “When the Israelites obeyed God’s commands and the priests played the horns, they showed their faith in God to do what He promised. **JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES TRUSTED GOD TO DEFEAT JERICO.** I hope you will take your horns home as a reminder that God can always be trusted.”

##### ☐ OPTION 2: I SPY THE STORY POINT



Before the session, write the words of the story point, **JOSHUA AND THE ISRAELITES TRUSTED GOD TO DEFEAT JERICO** on individual sticky notes. Hide the sticky notes in various places around the room such as under chairs, behind doors, on top of Bibles, etc. Challenge kids to find the story point notes and place them in the correct order.

**SAY** “Just as Joshua and the Israelites trusted God, **we can trust God because He is faithful and does everything for His glory and our good.** God acted for our very best good when He sent Jesus to save us from sin. When we trust in Jesus, we are saved from sin and receive the gift of eternal life.”

#### 2 REFLECTION AND PRAYER (5 minutes)

Distribute a sheet of paper and pencil to each kid. Ask kids to write about or draw a picture to answer the following questions:

- What does this story teach me about God or the gospel?
- What does the story teach me about myself?
- Who can I tell about this story?

Be sure to send the sheets home with the kids along with the activity pages so parents can continue to discuss the Bible story with their kids. If time remains, take prayer requests or allow kids to complete the Bible story coloring page. Pray for your group.