

# 7



## JOSHUA & JERICHO

### Going into the Promised Land

Year 1 – THE KINGDOM STORY

## 1 | Teacher's Notes

**Scripture** Joshua 1,2, 6

**Objectives** To explain that

- Our lessons are all a part of a bigger story which is the story of the Forever Kingdom. This big story is found in the Bible.
- God kept his promise and led his people into their promised land.
- Canaan was filled with people who did not follow God, but Joshua's obedience led to Jericho's fall. The blessing of the promised land was fulfilled.
- Obeying God leads to blessing both now and in the future.
- The name Joshua is another form of the name Jesus. The story of Joshua points to how Jesus leads us into the promised land of life with him.

**Memory Verse** "The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made." (Psalm 145:13b - NIV)

**ACNA** Today's story of Joshua is connected to the following Catechism questions:

**Catechism  
Connections**

Q 321 How did God teach Israel to respect the property of others? ... God gave land and possessions as a trust from him...

Q 28 What is in the OT? ...God's calling of Israel to be his people, God's saving deeds...

**Suggested  
Materials,  
Props, and  
Costumes****Big story props:**

- Crown - or picture of a crown
- Large Bible.

(These props relate to the bigger story of the Forever Kingdom, and will be used for every lesson. The crown will be referred to as the Kingdom Crown.)

**Lesson props:**

- The Exodus poster showing Moses at the Red Sea. This will be referred to in this lesson
- Large cardboard boxes or chairs that represent the walls of Jericho.
- Toy/paper trumpets
- Numbered day signs 1-7

**Costumes:** Joshua

**Memory Verse:** "The Lord is faithful to all his promises and loving toward all he has made." (Psalm 145:13b - NIV)

(Found on the last page of this lesson plan.) Printed out and placed inside the large Bible.



**Walking around the walls of Jericho**

## 2 | Lesson Outline

<b>Welcome</b>	As the children arrive ensure each one is personally welcomed and everyone knows each other's name.
<b>Greeting &amp; Collect for Purity</b>	Light the candles Say the Greeting and Collect for Purity (see Resource Section)
<b>Prayer of Confession</b>	Say the Prayer of Confession (see Resource Section) Extinguish the candles
<b>Music</b>	Books of the Bible - Old Testament Also choose another song from the Resource Section
<b>Review of foundations</b>	Choose from the following as appropriate: The Lord's Prayer, The Apostles Creed, The Ten Commandments or The Greatest Commandment <b><i>For more information on how to teach these, see Resource Section</i></b>
<b>Reading</b>	Memory verse (Printed out and placed in large Bible – invite older child to read)
<b>Poster Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss this week's poster.</li> <li>• Ask "I wonder questions" – these will be answered during the story.</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Poster discussion is found in Section 3 and on the back of the poster</i></b></p>
<b>Props/Costumes</b>	Take a few moments to arrange the narrator and actors. (Props should already be set up prior to the start of the class.) <b>Big story props:</b> Kingdom Crown, Large Bible
<b>Bible Story</b>	<b><i>Proceed with story and life application found in Section 4.</i></b>
<b>Related activities</b>	<b><i>After the story, proceed with related activities found in Section 5.</i></b>
<b>Preparation for Communion &amp; leaving class</b>	Gather the children together for the Preparation for Communion prayer before exiting the classroom. <b><i>See Resource Section.</i></b>

### 3 | Poster Discussion

#### Poster

(During the poster discussion, explain any difficult words in the story.)

What do you see in this poster? (City walls, trumpets, people etc.)

I wonder why the people are marching and blowing trumpets.

I wonder who is leading the procession. (Joshua – the name Joshua is another form of the name Jesus. The story of Joshua points to how Jesus leads us into the promised land of life with him.)

I wonder what is happening to the city walls.

Let's find out in our story....



## 4 | Story and Life Application

**CROWN:** *Point to the crown and say: 'Today we are continuing our big story of God's Forever Kingdom.'*

**BIBLE:** *Hold up the Bible and say: 'This week's story is from the book of Joshua, in the Old Testament. We know that it is a true story because it comes from the Bible and the Bible is God's Word.'*

**LESSON SUMMARY:** *The teacher reads the lesson summary from back of poster: After Moses died, God chose Joshua to lead the people into Canaan, the Promised Land. It was a beautiful land! But there was a big problem. The people who lived in Canaan worshipped many false gods and didn't know or obey God. They did evil in the sight of the Lord.*

*The first city in Canaan that Joshua came to, was called Jericho. Jericho was built with strong, high walls and the people trusted in their walls and idols to protect them. In today's story we hear how God's people trusted in God and how God kept his promise by giving them a land to live in. God told Joshua to have the Israelites march around the city of Jericho for seven days. On the seventh day, they were to blow on their trumpets and shout out loud. Joshua and his men were obedient to all that God told him. On the seventh day the strong walls of Jericho came tumbling down! Through God's power Jericho was conquered and God's people entered the land that God had promised to Abraham. God is faithful to all his promises.*

### **STORY:**

**TEACHER:** *(pointing to the Moses poster)* Last week, we talked about Moses leading the people out of Egypt, and towards the promised land, Canaan. God chose Joshua, Moses' helper, to lead the people into the Promised Land. Did you know that Joshua is another form of the name Jesus? The story of Joshua points to how Jesus leads us into the promised land of life with him.

**ACTION:** *Ask for a volunteer to be Joshua, and ask them to stand beside the teacher. Tell the other children that they can be the Israelites.*

**TEACHER:** Do you remember what the big problem was with the people who lived in the land of Canaan? Yes, the Canaanites worshipped idols and did evil! What was the city of Jericho like? Look again at the picture. You can see high, strong walls for protection. God told Joshua to "be strong and courageous." God was going to perform a miracle and help Joshua and the people to conquer

Jericho. Then Canaan would become their home. They would grow in numbers and become a blessing to others.

**ACTION:** *Have the children stand around the walls of Jericho.*

**TEACHER:** God told Joshua to have the people march around Jericho six days in a row.

**ACTION:** *Have the children march six times around the walls, led by Joshua. Have the teacher count out the six days of marching as they walk around, using the numbered day signs. Encourage strong marching.*

**TEACHER:** On the seventh day, the Israelites were to march around the walls seven times! The people were to blow the trumpets as they marched.

**ACTION:** *Have the children blow their trumpets as they are marching.*

**TEACHER:** Then Joshua gave the command: "Now, shout! The Lord has given you this city!" The people shouted!

**ACTION:** *Have all the children blow their trumpets and shout loudly.*

**TEACHER:** And the walls fell. Through God's power, the Israelites defeated the city.

**ACTION:** *Have the children knock over the walls of Jericho.*

**TEACHER:** God drove out the enemies and the Israelites lived in the promised land. God kept the promise that he gave to Abraham many years ago.

As Joshua got older, he reminded the people to obey God's word and God would bless them.

**ACTION:** *All the children can help tidy up the fallen walls of Jericho, and then go back to their places.*

**SUGGESTED QUESTIONS:**

- **What does this story tell us about God?** (God has a plan, he values obedience, he judges evil, he provides for his people, he is trustworthy)
- What was the name of the land area that God promised the Israelites? (Canaan)
- What were the Canaanites like? Did they do good or evil? (evil)
- Why did God want to give this land to his people? (He promised it to Abraham so that God's people could be a blessing...to have a place where God could teach them his ways, his laws and his saving love)
- How did God help Joshua bring down the walls of Jericho? (He gave Joshua the plan to follow. They were to march around the city every day for seven days and on the seventh day blow their trumpets and shout aloud. It was God's plan, his strength, and the people's obedience to God's plan that brought the city walls down)
- Are the names Joshua and Jesus connected? (Yes, Joshua is another form of the name Jesus)
- How does the story of Joshua point to Jesus? (The story of Joshua points to how Jesus leads us into the promised land of life with him.)

**Life Application (this discussion can also take place during craft/activity time):**

God kept his promise to Abraham and to Joshua and the Israelites, by rescuing them, feeding them and bringing them into the Promised Land. He did many wonderful things for his people because he wanted to bless them so that they would be a blessing to others. From the Israelites would come the wonderful promised Forever King, Jesus. He is the best blessing of all!

What are some of the ways that God has blessed you? How does he plan for *you* to be a blessing to others? (be kind to others, tell others about Jesus, etc)

In this story, Joshua and the Israelites trusted and obeyed God, and God blessed them. How does trusting and obeying God and your parents give a blessing to you? (makes you and them happy, you may be given privileges, trusting in their goodness gives you peace in your heart and you can be happy)



**The walls of Jericho are coming down**

## 5 | Response Activities

### Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement

- Have the children complete the activities in the Kingdom News handout and colouring supplement.

### Optional activities

- Make trumpets of rolled up paper.
- Make hearts with the word "Trust" on one side and "Obey" on the other
- Different learning stations, such as: a book table, modelling clay, colouring papers.



**Jericho in ruins!**

"The Lord is faithful  
to all his promises  
and loving to all he  
has made."

(Psalm 145:13)