



**Beautiful
BIBLE TREASURES
For Children**

Lesson 37

Level A—Little Bible Treasures:

Joshua, Jordan, and Jericho

Level B—Children's Bible Treasures:

Joshua, Jordan, and Jericho

Level C—Story Time with Jesus:

Joshua, Jordan, and Jericho

Level D—What Does it Actually Say?:

Joshua, Jordan, and Jericho

Level E—Bible Bits: Chapter Studies—John 15:1-9/

Topic Treasures—Fruitfulness

Joshua, Jordan, and Jericho

Joshua became the new leader of the big team of people who were ready to enter into their new country.

God told Joshua what to do, and how to enter the new land.

The priests carried the Ark of the Covenant to the Jordan River and as soon as their feet touched the water, God parted it and made a pathway through the water. They walked across on dry land.

Next, a team of people and priests marched around the big high walls of the city of Jericho, once a day for six days and then seven times on the seventh day.

The seventh day they shouted and blew trumpets, and God made those strong walls fall flat.

There was nothing in the way any more, and the Israelites could walk into their new land and make it their home.



Joshua, Jordan and Jericho

Joshua had helped Moses for many years, and was a man full of faith. He was quick to obey and follow whatever God said to do. When it was time for Moses to return to God and live with Him, God gave Joshua the job of being the new leader of the Israelites. He was to lead them into the new land that God had promised would be theirs.

It was a very big job and an important responsibility. Joshua knew that the only way to succeed, and to have things go well, was to pray and ask God what to do.

One day when Joshua was praying, before entering the new country, a man was sent from God to talk with him. He was a powerful Captain in charge of God's angels. God sent him to help and encourage Joshua.

God told Joshua the plan, and gave the instructions on what to do next. It didn't look possible, or easy, to just walk into their new land and to start building their houses, and to live there peacefully.

First of all, there was the Jordan River that would need to be crossed. Also, the city of Jericho was inhabited by ungodly people, and surrounded by a very big, strong and high wall.



It would take many miracles to even be able to enter their new country at last, but that is what God is good at doing. These things that seemed impossible, or very difficult, were not a problem to Him.

Everyone obeyed the new and amazing instructions given to them by the Lord. The priests carried the special Ark of the Covenant box to the river's edge, and as soon as their feet touched the water, it began to part!

There was a big pathway right through the Jordan River to the other side, and everyone could easily cross it.

After crossing the river, a team of people and some priests were chosen to walk around the outside of the walled city of Jericho—one time every day, for six days. Then on the seventh day, they walked around it seven times.

They blew their trumpets and shouted at just the right time, when God said they should. Then a miracle happened! Those big strong walls fell down flat, after the people did as God said. The Israelites were able to move into their new country at last.

Activity

* Make pretend "trumpets" out of paper or cardboard rolls. Play a game where you all are quiet, and when the "it" person gives a signal then everyone makes noise using their "trumpets."

Joshua, Jordan and Jericho



Before it was time for Moses to go to Heaven, God said for him to put Joshua in charge—a faith-filled, God-following man. He was to take over, and lead the Israelites into their land of promise.

Joshua had been a helper to Moses for many years, and had learned many things as a result of his training.

It was going to be a big job for Joshua, but God was just as close to him, and would powerfully help the Israelites, just as much as when Moses was their leader. The first challenge they faced, in order to get to the new country, was to find a way to cross the Jordan River—without boats, or rafts, or aeroplanes.

How were they going to do that? God had a plan. Remember that special box called “the Ark of the Covenant”? It was the box that held special things in it, especially the 10 commandments that God wrote on the tablets of stone. God told the priests—the chosen men of prayer—to carry it out to the river’s edge.

Joshua told everyone that when they would see the priests carrying the ark, that it was to be their cue, and time to cross over the river. So when they saw it happening, everyone packed up and got walking.

Then the miracle happened! As soon as the feet of the priests who were carrying the ark barely touched the water’s edge, the water parted making a dry path through to the other side! Everyone could then just walk across.

They had to demonstrate their obedience and their faith that God was going to help them, even without any big sign that the water was going to move out of the way. It wasn’t until they did what God said, and put their toes in the water, that the miracle happened.

Sometimes, I, Jesus, want you to wait for the right time to do something, and other times you just need to jump in and start to do whatever it is that I asked of you, even if it seems completely impossible. Then as you do it, I will make a way and do the impossible for you.

All the people in the surrounding lands heard about this event—that the water parted for the Israelites, God's travelling team. It made the people living around there realise whose side God was on, and just how powerful He was.

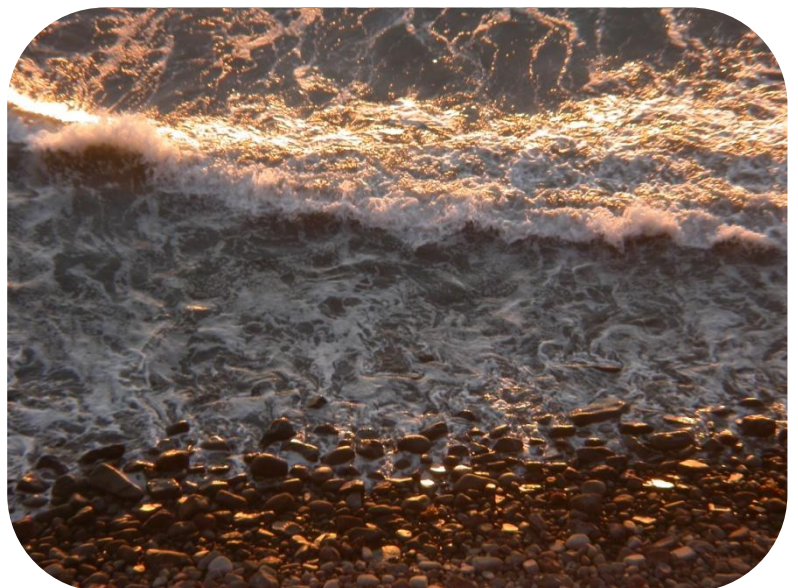
Joshua had to pray and get his instructions from God for each thing they needed to do. He could have said, "I know what to do!" But that wouldn't have brought on the power of God in their lives, and would have just made a mess of things.

Joshua was very ready to listen, to pray, and to then do exactly what God told him to. The people had also learned that things always worked out best when they obeyed God's Word and instructions.

A visitor from Heaven came to speak with Joshua. He was a powerful, strong-looking man. When Joshua asked him who he was, and whose side he was on, the visitor said that he had come from God and was in charge of many angels—he was the "Captain of the Lord's Host!"

Then the same instruction was given to Joshua as was given to Moses long before, when he spoke with God at the burning bush, to "remove his shoes." Joshua did that quickly, and was ready to hear whatever this powerful visitor from God had to say.

In the land they were to live in, there was a very strong wall around its main city, but those that lived there had not learned to love and follow God's ways. God wanted His new, trained team to move in and live there instead. But to get past that wall would take a big miracle of God!



As Joshua prayed, God told him the plan—and it was something so completely different than anything they'd ever heard of, or seen done before. If you only do the things you know or think might work, when you are faced with problems—maybe problems that seem as difficult as a tall, thick and strong wall—you might not find the right solution by just using your own brain.

If you stop however, to pray and get God's insight, thoughts, and ideas, you might get a totally new, great, amazing, cool idea that really works! And God makes sure that it works by helping to do the things you can't do, because you showed your faith in His help and your willingness to do things His way.

God had instructed Joshua to have some priests carry the Ark of the Covenant, and others blowing trumpets, and a large team chosen from the Israelites to simply walk around the wall—the entire outside of the walled city of Jericho. They were to do this once every day for six days, and return each day to the camp for the night.

Then on the seventh day they were to rise extra early and do the same thing, but on that day to do it seven times! After their final walk around the city of Jericho on that last day, they were all to shout very loudly at just the time Joshua would instruct them to.

Everyone did just as God had planned and followed Joshua's instructions. Then the most amazing thing took place! The walls fell flat! Whoever heard of that happening? The walls didn't just crack or break a bit, but fell so flat that each one could just walk straight in from where they were standing!

Talk about the power of God working for those that chose to obey all that He'd said, no matter how crazy it seemed or contrary to the "normal" way of doing things.

God can do things that are usually thought impossible! Men and women of faith can do amazing things, as God can do



anything for them, if it's within His will, and brings about His plan of helping people to know about Him and His love and Word.

I can use you to do wonderful things, if you'll just do as Moses and Joshua did: Get quiet, pray, hear what I, Jesus, have to say, and then do what I tell you! I'm there with you too, and will help you out regardless of how difficult the situation or what stands in your way. If you've got Me on your side—and you are on Mine—nothing is impossible.

Let's Talk About It

* Do you feel that you are the kind of person that likes to try and do new things—things no one else has tried before? Or are you someone that feels more comfortable doing things that others have already tried and tested, pioneered or experimented with?

* If you were put in charge of a large team of people and they looked to you for advice, what kinds of skills, or qualities, or habits, do you think would be the best for you to have, to make you a good and successful leader? What are some things that Joshua did that made him a good leader?

Activity

* Play a "bingo" game with quiz questions to answer. Whatever square on the player's bingo cards that has the answer to the question being read, is covered with a marker. When a player has three markers in a row, they win a prize. The game can continue until there are multiple winners, if the players wish.

(See game board, quiz questions, and instructions below.)

Bingo Quiz

Instructions:

- *Print out, photocopy, or make by hand, enough bingo game boards for all players to have one or more boards each. (see below)
- *Use a die to roll and determine which question is to be read. For example: if you roll a three, then the third question down from the top is to be read.
- *Those that have the corresponding answer on their game board then place a marker on it.
- *After the question is read, it is then crossed off the list. When the die is rolled, you read the question that is that number down from the top, skipping over the questions that are crossed off. For example: if "three" is rolled again, because the third question from the top has already been asked and has been crossed off, it is skipped over, so what was previously the fourth one on the list is now the new third one that hasn't been read yet.
- *When someone has placed three markers in a row on their "bingo" game board, they win a prize. (Determine what this will be when you choose to play the game.) Or, instead of the goal being to get three in a row, you could make it be whoever's card is completely filled first with markers. The game can continue until there are other winners as well, if desired.

Questions:

- Who was the leader after Moses? (Joshua)
- What was the angelic man that appeared to Joshua? (Captain)
- What was Joshua told to take off while talking with the Captain of the Lord's host? (shoes)
- What was a short name for the special box that the priests carried? (ark)
- Who was allowed to carry the Ark of the Covenant? (priests)
- What was the name of the river that the Israelites had to cross? (Jordan)

How were the people to cross the Jordan River? (walking)

What was the city called that was surrounded by a big tall wall? (Jericho)

How many times every day did the chosen team have to walk around the walls of Jericho for the first six days? (one)

How many times did the team have to walk around the walls of Jericho on the seventh day? (seven)

What musical instrument was used during the march around the walls of Jericho? (trumpet)

What happened to the walls after God's instructions were obeyed? (fell)

Game boards (with varied orders)

walking	one	fell	priests
trumpet	Joshua	seven	Captain
shoes	ark	Jericho	Jordan

Jericho	seven	priests	Joshua
walking	Jordan	shoes	fell
trumpet	Captain	one	ark

shoes	Jordan	Joshua	priests
Jericho	one	fell	Captain
walking	trumpet	ark	seven

fell	Joshua	walking	shoes
Captain	ark	one	seven
trumpet	Jericho	Jordan	priests

Captain	one	ark	trumpet
seven	Jordan	Joshua	priests
fell	walking	Jericho	shoes

Joshua, Jordan and Jericho



Connect and Communicate

* Play "Verse Medicine". People take turns stating a "what if" situation that is likely to happen that day, and others quote a verse that would help in that situation.

For example one player might say, "If I was going to use my bike and I found out the tire was flat, and I couldn't find the pump, what verse might help me?" Someone might remember, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart," or, "Ask and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find," and so forth. (Proverbs 3:5 and Matthew 7:7)

Study Fun

Find: The places in this passage that are messages from God to Moses or Joshua. Mark them with "GS" for "God speaking".

Learn: Where the Jordan River is, on a map of Jordan and the surrounding area.

Demonstrate: With actions, the "doing" instructions that are talked about, when you come across them in the text. (For example: Be strong; take up the Ark; carry the stones; blow the trumpets, etc.)

Exodus 24:13 And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.

Exodus 33:11 And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. And he turned again into the camp: but his servant Joshua, the son of Nun, a young man, departed not out of the tabernacle.

Numbers 32:12 ... and Joshua the son of Nun: for they have wholly followed the Lord.

Numbers 7:18-19 And the Lord said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him; And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.

Deuteronomy 31:7-8 And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage. And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.

Deuteronomy 31:14-15 And the Lord said unto Moses, Behold, thy days approach that thou must die: call Joshua, and present yourselves in the tabernacle of the congregation, that I may give him a charge. And Moses and Joshua went, and presented themselves in the tabernacle of the congregation. And the Lord appeared in the tabernacle in a pillar of a cloud: and the pillar of the cloud stood over the door of the tabernacle.

Joshua

1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

1:7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest.

1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

1:9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

3:5 And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the Lord will do wonders among you.

3:6 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people.

3:7 And the Lord said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee.

3:8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

3:9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the Lord your God.

3:13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.



3:14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

3:15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)

3:16 That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that is beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, even the salt sea, failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

3:17 And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

4:4 Then Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had prepared of the children of Israel, out of every tribe a man:

4:5 And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the Lord your God into the midst of Jordan, and take you up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel:

4:6 That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?

4:7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

6:1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in.

6:2 And the Lord said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour.

6:3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

6:4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

6:5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

6:10 And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall any word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.



6:11 So the ark of the Lord compassed the city, going about it once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

6:14 And the second day they compassed the city once, and returned into the camp: so they did six days.

6:15 And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

6:16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city.

6:20 So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

6:27 So the Lord was with Joshua; and his fame was noised throughout all the country.

Activity

* Play, "Guess Who the Leader Is". One person goes out of the room, while all the others secretly choose a "leader". They all stand in a circle facing each other, and will copy whatever actions the "leader" does. The person comes back into the room, and watches while everyone is doing various actions, whatever action the leader is doing, all at the same time. The leader changes actions and all copy what he is doing, but try to do it in a way that the person trying to guess who the leader is doesn't see clearly who the one initiating the new actions is. When the correct leader is guessed, then another player may leave the room and a new leader is chosen. The game continues.

Fountain of Faith

Deuteronomy 31:8

And the Lord, he it is that doth go before thee; he will be with thee, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: fear not, neither be dismayed.



Psalms 5:12

For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.



Chapter Studies— John 15:1-9**Praise**

Judges 5:3 Hear, O ye kings; give ear, O ye princes; I, even I, will sing unto the Lord; I will sing praise to the Lord God of Israel.

*Praise the Lord, listing all the things you can think of that you are thankful for, all at one time, and in one breath! Take a deep breath, and ready, set, go!

John 15:1-9

(Activity: Give each one a piece of paper, and fold it to make creases to mark eight sections—one for each of the eight verses in this study. Read a verse and draw the simple suggested item (or an alternative that is related to the item) in one of the boxes on the paper, while reading and discussing "A thought to ponder."

Verse 1.) I am the true vine, and My Father is the husbandman.

- Draw: A vine.
- A thought to ponder: Jesus is life, and brings life—like a growing, thriving vine. God the Father takes care of His garden of life—those He has created.

Verse 2.) Every branch in Me that beareth not fruit He taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, He purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

- Draw: Fruit.
- A thought to ponder: Jesus sees what each one chooses to do while on Earth. Those who aren't making the right choices, and no good is coming from them, their life's efforts will prove of no lasting good and will be taken away. Those who try to follow Jesus and do His will may have difficulties and times of lesson learning, but in the end even more good will come from their lives and they will be rewarded for their godly efforts.

Verse 3.) Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.

- Draw: Water.
- A thought to ponder: Jesus forgives us for our wrongdoings, and through listening to His words, counsel, and instruction, we can become a bit more like Him. Knowing what He wants to tell us, can help us to set aside and wash away our sinful human ways. His Word in our mind and heart, and lived out in our actions, makes our spirits shine—like something that has been washed. It's something we need daily for our spirits—just like we wash our bodies.

Verses 4-5.) Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in Me. I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.

- Draw: A branch on a vine or tree, with a ripe fruit on it.
- A thought to ponder: We can't be independent from the Lord. If we think we know what to do and don't need His help, we'll fail. It's only through prayer, and receiving His words, counsel, and help, that we can succeed in doing anything good for Him or others. We need to pray always, and stay in close communication with Him.

Verse 6.) *If a man abide not in Me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.*

- Draw: Old, withered, dry branches being burned.
- A thought to ponder: The sap is what keeps the branches on a tree or vine alive and bearing fruit. If it were to pluck itself off, thinking it could do fine on its own, it would wither and be useless. We need Jesus to give us life—not only physically, but spiritually too. God's Word is like the sap, and keeps us full of faith, love, and His Spirit.

Verse 7.) *If ye abide in Me, and My Words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

- Draw: A Bible inside of a heart shape.
- A thought to ponder:
- When you stay close to Jesus, in thought, in prayer, and in your actions, and if your deeds are in line with what He'd like—just as a branch that is a part of a vine—then Jesus wants to answer your prayers and help you in all the ways possible.

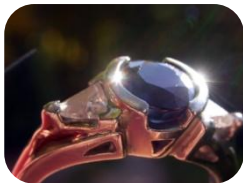
Verse 8.) *Herein is My Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be My disciples.*

- Draw: A stick figure boy or girl holding a basket of fruit.
- A thought to ponder: Those who are good followers of Jesus are those that help others to know how wonderful God is. They let Jesus use their life to bring His love and goodness to others, and help many more to want to love Him too and to give their lives also to tell others about Him.

Verse 9.) *As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you: continue ye in My love.*

- Draw: A chain made of heart shaped links.
- A thought to ponder: Jesus came to Earth to show us God's love in a

way we could all clearly see and understand. But it isn't meant to end there. He wants the love of God, for each one on Earth, to continue to be shown and known. Who's going to do that? We can't see Jesus as an Earthly man now. This is the job He passed on to us who know Him, to spread His love and the message of His salvation to as many as we can.



Topic Treasures —Fruitfulness

Study Fun

Find: All the times the word "fruit" or "fruitful" appears in these verses.

Learn: By heart a verse of your choice, from those in this study.

Demonstrate: What these verses are talking about, by acting them out in pantomime, after reading each verse.

Psalm 1:3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

Matthew 3:10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

Colossians 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God.

John 15:8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Matthew 7:17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

Matthew 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Matthew 13:22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.

Matthew 13:23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth.

3 John 1:11 Beloved, follow not that which is evil, but that which is good. He that doeth good is of God: but he that doeth evil hath not seen God.



Daily Diary

* What "good fruit" can you bear today? Make a list of things you would like Jesus to help you do and be, as you choose to stay close to Him today.