

36. The Siege of Jericho

The Word of the Lord: The Old Testament for Young Children

Notes for Parents & Teachers

36. The Siege of Jericho

- a. Jericho's walls were so strong and high that it seemed impossible to conquer the city. Only by the Lord's miracle could they do it.
- b. The children will love the idea of the marching round the city. The trumpets sound, but the people are told not to make any noise, all six times they marched around it. It must have made the people in the city feel surprised, maybe they even laughed at the children of Israel.
- c. Imagine what it was like when they marched seven times, still in silence, and then the trumpets sounded, and all the people shouted. What a noise it must have made.



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The Lord Helps the Children of Israel Destroy Jericho

When all the kings of the land heard that the Lord had dried up the River Jordan so that the children of Israel could cross on dry land, their hearts melted with fear. And the city of Jericho shut itself up from the Israelites so that no one went out and no one came into the city.

And the Lord said to Joshua, “You shall go around the city one time. Seven priests shall carry seven trumpets in front of the ark. You shall do this for six days. On the seventh day you shall go around the city seven times, and the priests shall sound the trumpets. And when they blow the trumpets, all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the walls of the city shall fall down. Then the soldiers shall go into the city.”

So Joshua called the priests and told them to get ready. Then he commanded the people saying, “You shall not shout, neither shall any word come out of your mouth until I tell you to shout. And then you shall shout.” And Joshua got up early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the Lord. Seven of the priests carried seven trumpets and they walked in front of the ark blowing the trumpets. The soldiers walked in front of the priests with the trumpets. The people walked behind the ark of the Lord. And they went around the city one time. They did not make a sound.

Then they went back to their camp. They did this for six days. On the seventh day the people got up early. They went around the city seven times just as the Lord had commanded. On the seventh time the priests blew the trumpets. Then Joshua said to the people, “Shout, for the Lord has given you the city.” So the people shouted with a great shout and the priests blew with the trumpets. And the walls of the city fell down!

Then the soldiers went up into the city and they captured the city. They burnt up the city with fire and all that was in it except for the silver and the gold, and the vessels of bronze and of iron. These they gave into the treasure of the house of the Lord. And the two spies went into the city and brought out Rahab and all her family, and saved them. Then Rahab and her family went to live with the children of Israel.

Joshua 5 and 6

