

37. Joshua Fights Five Kings

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

Notes for Parents & Teachers

37. Joshua Fights Five Kings

- a. Maybe you should tell them the story of the Gibeonites, how they tricked Joshua into promising not to attack them.
- b. That explains why the five kings decided to attack Gibeon, but Joshua had promised to look after them.
- c. Joshua surprised the kings—they didn't expect to be attacked by night.
- d. Talk about how amazing it was that the sun stood still till the battle was over.



Text simplified by Carol Bongers Buss
Pictures by Dianna Echols Synnestvedt
Notes by the Rt. Rev. Peter M. Buss, Sr.

To purchase book of 56 stories, visit
[https://newchurchbooks.com/product/
the-word-of-the-lord-new-testament/](https://newchurchbooks.com/product/the-word-of-the-lord-new-testament/).

The Lord Makes the Sun and Moon Stand Still

Now the king of Jerusalem heard that Joshua had captured the city of Ai and was going to destroy it, just as he had done to Jericho. He also heard that the inhabitants of Gibeon had made peace with Israel and were living amongst them. Then the king was very afraid because Gibeon was one of the greatest cities.

So the king of Jerusalem went to four other kings, saying, “Come and help me. Let us kill the Gibeonites for they have made peace with Joshua.” So the five Kings gathered their armies together and they camped across from Gibeon and they fought against the men of Gibeon. Then the king of Gibeon sent to Joshua saying, “Hurry, come and save us from all the kings that live in the mountains. They have come together to fight against us.”

Then Joshua came with all his soldiers. And the Lord said to Joshua, “Do not be afraid, for I am with you.” And Joshua came upon the enemy suddenly during the night. And God struck down the enemy with a great blow and the Israelites chased after them. And it was when the five kings and their armies ran from before the Israelites that God rained down great hailstones from heaven upon them. There were more men who died with the stones of hail than the children of Israel killed with the sword.

Then Joshua spoke to the Lord, and Joshua said in front of all the Israelites, “Sun, stand still in Gibeon. Moon, stand still in the valley of Ajalon!” And the sun stopped halfway in the heavens and it did not hurry to go down while the children of Israel fought their enemies. The Lord fought for Israel and they won the battle.

Then Joshua returned, and all his soldiers with him, to their camp. But the five kings ran and hid themselves in caves in the mountains.

Joshua 10

