

Glenview New Church Sunday Morning Program
Preschool Lessons, Phase 2 – Lesson 16
Joshua and the Walls of Jericho (Joshua 6)

Theme: Heroes

I. Underlying Ideas for the Teacher

- A. Joshua represents truth fighting, and his name means ‘Jehovah is my help.’
- B. All power to do what is right is from the Lord alone.
- C. After the Lord gave the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai, He exercised His power through the ark containing the Commandments.
- D. The trumpet of ram’s horn represents speaking up for what is right.

II. Story Circle

- A. Introduce the Story
 - 1. Long ago there was a man named Joshua. (He led the children of Israel after Moses. Do you remember Moses?) The Lord told Joshua to take the children of Israel into the Holy Land, but there were evil people living there. Joshua and his men would have to fight these people! And the first fight they had was the battle of Jericho.
 - 2. Jericho was a city with walls all around it (like a fence). The walls were strong and thick. And the only way you could go into the city of Jericho was through its gates (doors). Do you think the people of Jericho would open the gates for Joshua and his men to fight them? No! The people of Jericho shut the gates each night and whenever there was trouble, so they could be safe inside the strong walls of the city. How could Joshua and the children of Israel win the battle? Let's hear the story from the Word.
- B. Tell/Read the Story
 - 1. Read the retelling from Joshua 6:1-16, 20, 27. (See attached retelling).
- C. Ideas to Discuss
 - 1. Who was the new leader of the children of Israel? (Joshua)
 - 2. What was the name of the city Joshua had to fight? (Jericho).
 - 3. Why was Jericho hard to fight? (It had strong walls all around it).
 - 4. Who told Joshua how to win the battle? (The Lord).
 - 5. What did the children of Israel carry around the city? (The ark)
 - 6. What did the priests blow on? (Trumpets)
 - 7. For six days, they marched around the city one time. How many times did they march around the city of Jericho on the seventh day? (Seven times)
 - 8. For the first six days, Joshua told the people not to let any sound come out of their mouths. What did Joshua tell them to do on the seventh day? (He told them to shout!)
 - 9. What happened when the people shouted on the seventh day? (The walls of Jericho fell down flat. Joshua and the children of Israel took the city.)

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2 – Lesson 16

D. Further Ideas

1. When the Lord told Joshua to be the leader of the children of Israel, the Lord said, "Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid [nor be dismayed], for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
2. Joshua was very brave! In every battle, Joshua was strong and brave, because he knew the Lord would help him.
3. Who really won the battle of Jericho? Who helped the children of Israel so that they could win? (The Lord)
4. Did you know that you have to fight battles, too? Your battles are inside of you! Whenever you want to do something bad, you have to fight to do what is good instead. Sometimes it is hard to be good, isn't it? Do you know who can help you be good? (The Lord!) Be brave like Joshua and try to do good things, not bad. For the Lord is always with you, too. And He can help you win your battles.

III. Enrichment Activities

A. Music

1. "Walls of Jericho" from the tape *Lori's Songs from the Word II*.
2. Listen to the tape and do the finger plays. Repeat if desired.
3. "All that the Lord has spoken" *Hymnal #245* (because the Lord can help us through His Word).

B. Project - A TRUMPET

1. Materials Needed
 - a. A trumpet for each child made of gold poster board, white poster board, or a paper towel tube.
 - b. Stickers and/or markers to decorate the trumpets with.
2. Motivation
 - a. Let's make a beautiful trumpet! Then we can pretend to be the priests marching around the walls of Jericho. The priests used trumpets made of rams' horns, but we will have to make our trumpets out of paper. Can you decorate your trumpet to make it special?
3. Procedure
 - a. Give each child a trumpet you have made prior to class. Give them stickers to decorate their trumpets with. Unless the trumpets are of shiny gold poster board, you may want to let them use markers also.

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2 – Lesson 16

C. Activity Using the Trumpets

1. Set up a place in the center of the room to be Jericho. You may want to build some walls with cardboard or wooden blocks. (Try to make sure you have a big enough space to march around so that no one gets dizzy!) Designate another part of the room as the camp.
2. March once around the city blowing (singing into) the trumpets, then return to the camp. Do this six times. On the seventh day, rise early. Just as the sun is coming up. March around the city SEVEN times. Then SHOUT and pretend to make the walls fall in!

IV. Teaching Aids

A. Illustrations

1. Joshua and the battle of Jericho.
2. A picture showing a trumpet of ram's horn.
3. A picture showing the ark (or a model of the ark).
4. Optional: Moses receiving the Ten Commandments from the Lord to show the children what was in the ark.

V. Further Reading for the Teacher

- A. Dole's *Bible Study Notes*, Vol. 2, "The Call of Joshua" pp. 262-279 and "The Taking of Jericho" pp. 312-326.

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2 – Lesson 16

From Joshua 6:1-16, 20, 27

JOSHUA AND THE BATTLE OF JERICHO

Jericho was shut up because of the children of Israel. No one went out, and no one went in.

And the Lord said to Joshua: "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men." Then the Lord told Joshua exactly what he should do to win the battle.

And Joshua did what the Lord told him to do. Every day for six days the children of Israel marched around the city of Jericho one time. The priests carried the ark around the city, and the ark was very special because part of the Word was inside of it. And seven priests carried trumpets of rams' horns and blew the trumpets as they marched around the city. The armed men also marched around the city. But Joshua commanded the people not to shout or make any noise with their mouths until he told them to shout. So for six days, they marched around the city of Jericho then went back to their camp.

But on the seventh day they rose early, about the dawning of the day, and marched around the city seven times. On that day only they marched around the city seven times. And the seventh time, when the priests blew the trumpets, Joshua said to the people: "Shout, for the Lord has given you the city!"

So the people shouted when the priests blew the trumpets. And when the people shouted with a great shout, the wall fell down flat. Then the people went into the city, and they took the city of Jericho.

So the Lord was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country.

Preschool Sunday School Lessons: Phase 2 – Lesson 16

Walls of Jericho

The walls were shut of Jericho, none came out and none came in.

Clap hands

Thumb out

Thumb in

Joshua called the people for the marching to begin.

Wave hand toward you

Walk with fingers

We'll take the ark and seven horns and round the city we'll go.

Cup hands

Circle with fingers

For seven days we'll march around the walls of Jericho.

Walk with fingers

Circle with fingers

You shall not shout or make a noise or speak a single word,

Hands to mouth as if to shout

Finger to mouth ("Sh")

For all the children of Israel must listen to the LORD."

Spread arms to include all

Hand to ear

1st day, 2nd day, 3rd day, 4th day, 5th day, 6th day.

Walk with fingers

(Slower) The 7th day they woke up with the rising of the sun.

Sleep on hands and wake

When all the people gathered, the marching was begun.

Wave hands toward you

Walk with fingers

For seven times they marched around so early in the morn.

Seven fingers up

Circle with fingers

Then Joshua said to shout out loud, and "blow your mighty horns!"

Hand to mouth

Make a horn with hands

And so the people blew their horns and shouted all around,

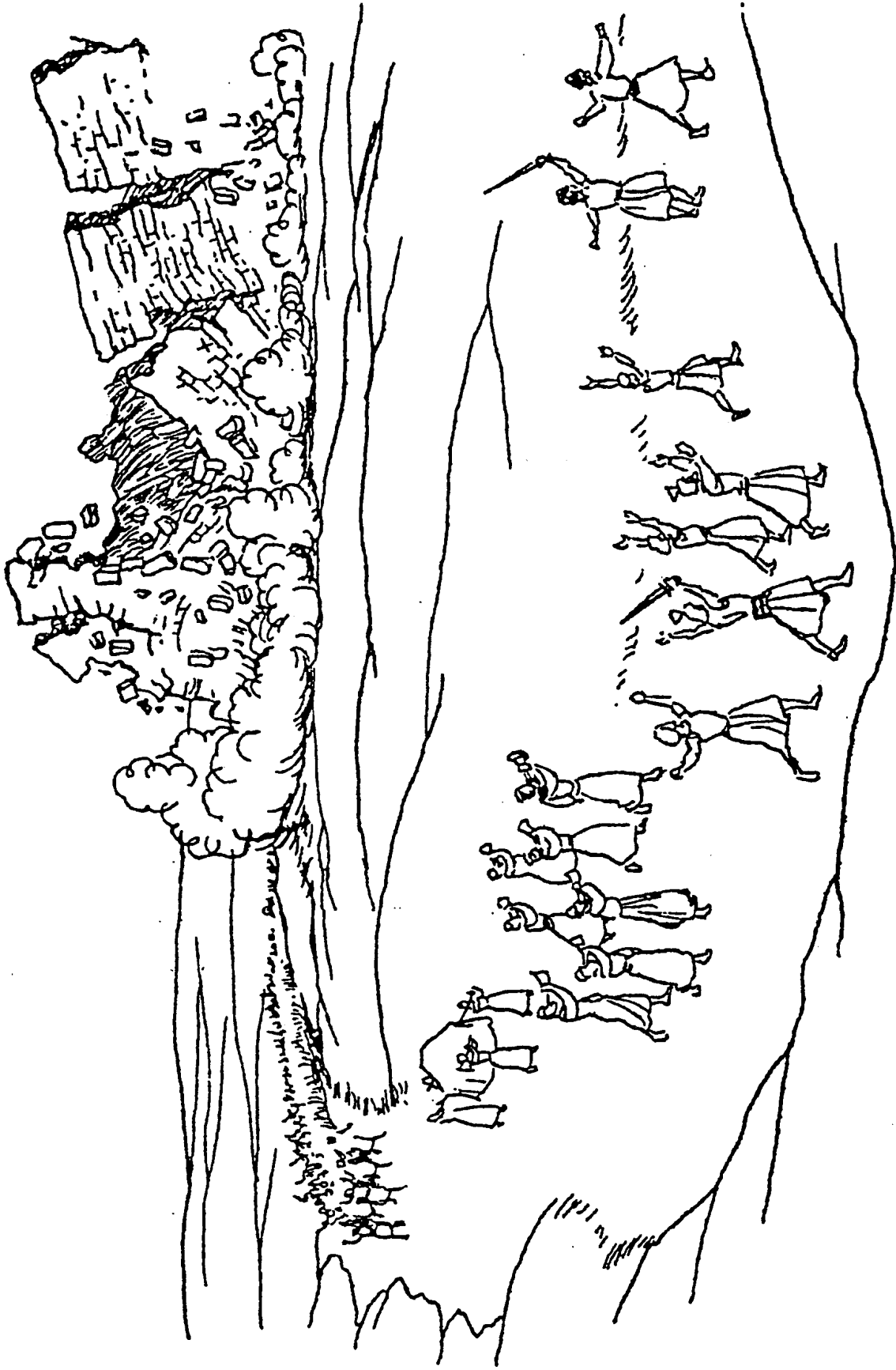
Make a horn with hands

Hands to mouth

And then the walls of Jericho fell flat upon the ground!

Circle with finger

Slap one hand down on the other



What is happening here?

What are the men blowing?

What is being carried around the city?

See if you can find the answers.