



## **“Shout for joy!”**

Joshua and Jericho - Joshua 5:13-6:20

Pops and Granny B bustled about the porch moving chairs and bringing out drinks and snacks. Delbert and Lello had promised to come and tell them all about their camping trip. Pops and Granny B were excited to hear how it went. They sat down to wait, keeping a close eye on the walkway.

Pops squinted, then smiled, and let out a deep laugh. Granny B followed his line of vision and could see Delbert and Lello coming up the path. They waved and watched as Delbert and Lello started running for the porch.

“Hello, little ones,” Granny B called.

“Hi, Granny B!” Lello called.

“Hi, Pops!” Delbert added.

Pops waved. “How was the camping trip?” he asked as they reached the steps.

Delbert and Lello jumped onto the porch and began talking quickly. Their voices got louder and louder as they spoke. “Haw! It was great. I got to lead on the way back!” Delbert said.

“I had so much fun. We got to sleep under the stars and even saw a shooting star!” added Lello.

“It was awesome!” they shouted together.

“You two are shouting with joy,” Granny B laughed.

“Baa. We had so much fun,” Lello said, her voice returning to normal.

“We’re glad to hear it. So, all the work was worth it?” Pops asked.

"Haw! Everything went just as my dad planned. He knows everything about camping," Delbert said proudly.

"Delbert's dad even taught us how to use a compass," Lello added.

"That's wonderful," Granny B said. "I'm glad you learned to trust your dad's plans. Do you know who else you can trust?" she asked.

"God!" Delbert and Lello shouted in unison.

"That's right, we can always trust God's plan, just like Joshua did in the Bible," Granny B replied.

"Would you tell us the story?" Lello asked.

Granny B pulled her Bible out of the apron pocket and opened it. "God helped Joshua win the battle of Jericho. He gave him the directions and Joshua obeyed. He and his men marched around the city walls for six days," Granny B explained.

"On the seventh day, they played their instruments and shouted," Pops added.

"Then, what happened?" Delbert asked eagerly.

"The walls fell down!" Pops shouted.

"Joshua trusted God's plan and won the battle!" Granny B finished. She closed her Bible and slipped it back in her pocket.

"Haw! Lello and I trusted my dad and we had a great camping trip!" Delbert said.

"We'd love to hear all about it," Granny B said.

Delbert and Lello gladly told Pops and Granny B all about their trip. Their voices grew louder and faster as they reached their favorite parts. Pops and Granny B listened attentively and asked lots of questions. When Delbert and Lello ran out of stories, Lello suggested they make Delbert's dad a thank you card. So, Granny B went into the house and returned with paper and crayons and bright stickers. Then, Delbert and Lello worked on the thank you card while Granny B and Pops took turns reading the whole story of Jericho from the Bible.