



Joshua and Jericho

Joshua 6

Running time: Approximately 6 minutes

Set: The set for God of Wonders Units 7-10 is designed as a seventeenth century pirate ship viewed from the port (left) side. The Caribbean Queen's bow is stage right. On stage left, there is a raised wheelhouse with a door to the Captain's quarters. Characters and puppets may pop up from several trap doors in the deck and from the crow's nest near the top of the center stage mast. There is a pulley system to raise the treasure chest from below deck where the Bible is kept. For added interest, build windows, entrances, and levels where the characters and puppets can pop up unexpectedly.

Characters: Captain Billy Ocean is a rough and tough former pirate who has given his heart to Jesus and uses his ship to serve God's kingdom. Cody is one of Captain Billy Ocean's "skater" nephews. He is fairly simple, speaks in surfer terms, and is excited by most things, especially God's Word.

Plot: Cody is confused about why God had Joshua and the Israelites march around the walls of Jericho. Captain Billy and Cody get the kids to act out the story. We learn we can always trust God's plans even if we don't understand them.

Costumes: Captain: Blousy shirt, vest, belt, boots, scarf, and an eye patch; Cody: Skater caps, skater shorts, knee socks, sandals

Props: Bibles, treasure chest, sword, horn

Sound effects (SFX):

1. Intro/Outro music suggestion: "Pirate Theme" from productiontrax.com tracks #19253 or #40794
3. Trumpet blasts
4. Wall crumbling sound

Visual effects (VFX):

1. Video Intro is available at ResourceWell.org
2. Scripture Slide: ***Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men." Joshua 6:2***
3. Closing Slide: **"May the God of Wonders fill your sails and guide your path!"**

Adaptations:

1. Sound Effects: instead of using recorded effects, have children make the sounds
2. Voiceovers: may be spoken off stage
3. This illustration is also available in storybook form at ResourceWell.org

High Seas Adventures

Unit 9, Lesson 47
Joshua and Jericho
Joshua 6

Voice over (VFX: Video bump)

Ahoy lads and lassies! There be a legend centuries old of a lost treasure, more valuable than gold! Though the Pirates searched both land and sea, they could not find where it might be! Until Captain Billy sailed the ocean blue and brought that treasure home to you. So grab yer treasure map, climb aboard the Caribbean Queen and join us as Captain Billy Ocean and his crew unveil the greatest wonders God has ever shown!

Cody (pops up w/Bible)

Ahoy kids! It is I, the Code man! I've been reading this Bible story all day and I just don't get it. Have you dudes ever heard of Joshua and the city of Jericho? Who's heard of that? (response) Cool! Well, Jericho is like this city with like this giant wall around it, right? So, here's the part I don't get, the people of Israel, right, they're God's people, right? And they've got like this huge army, right? So they could probably like wipe out the whole city of Jericho just with their swords, right? Right! But, instead Joshua has them marchin' around in circles and yelling and junk. I mean, that's no way to win a fight!

Captain (pops up w/Bible)

Cody, Cody! Ah, there you are, lad. Are you studying that story I told you to read?

Cody

Yeah, dude. It's a way cool story but, if Joshua was such a good leader, then why was he making the Israelites march around and shout and do all that silly junk instead of just attacking that wall and knockin' that puppy down?

Captain

Because the wall was too thick and Israelites didn't have weapons strong enough, so God gave Joshua a plan.

Cody

That's God's plan? To have a parade and give a shout out?!

Captain

Well, they also had trumpets.

Cody

Dude, you can't bust down a wall with a trumpet.

Captain

You're right...we can't...but God can!

Cody

But how could God's people be sure God would really do it?

Captain (VFX: Scripture slide)

Because, God had already made them a promise and God always keeps His promises, right kids? The Bible says: *Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men." Joshua 6:2*

Cody

But, God is all powerful, why didn't He just fire a lightning bolt at that old wall and blow it to smithereens!

Captain

That's a good plan, but not God's plan. God likes to do things in miraculous ways so that all who see and hear will know that only God himself could have done it.

Cody

Well...I don't know...I'm still havin' a hard time buying this story.

Captain

We all have doubts now and then. That's where you have to let faith take over. Would it help if we acted it out?

Cody (picks up sword)

Do I get to use your sword?

Captain

Only if you're extra careful.

Cody (cross to center of room)

Coolness! Okay! I am going to pretend that I am the Captain of the army of Jericho. And I need some super strong dudes to be my wall! All of you older dudes and dudettes come on over here and make a wall around me. (Line up older children as a surrounding wall.)

Captain

That's impressive.

Cody

Ha, ha! I am the leader of Jericho and you Israeli-ites can't touch me 'cuz I've got this awesome wall all around me!

Captain

**You've already lost, "leader of Jericho!"
The Lord has given us this city!**

Cody

Oh yeah, Dude! What ya gonna do, fire a cannon at the wall?

Captain (Remaining children act as Israelites)

Nope, God has given us a better plan. Let me get some warriors. Where are the younger dudes? Okay, you line up in front and be the guards. Now, let's get all the rest of the Israeli-ites on yer feet. We're going to pretend that this traysure chest is the golden ark that carries the Ten Commandment inside and we'll all follow the Golden Ark!

Cody

Why did they follow the Ark?

Captain

Because it held their greatest traysures, God's own words!

Cody

So now what ya gonna do? March around and have a big old hallelujah parade.

Captain

Actually, we're gonna march in silence. The Bible says, they marched around the city once a day for six days and then seven times on the seventh day.

Cody

But why didn't they say anything?

Captain

Because Joshua had commanded the people not raise their voices, and not to say a word until the day he told them to shout. All right, tribe, follow me in silence.

Cody

Woah, you're just gonna circle around and not say nothin'?

Captain

Shh.

Cody

Dudes, you are totally freakin' me out. Now, I know how the Jerichosians must have felt!

Captain

On the seventh day they marched around the city seven times. Joshua commanded the people that when the priest blasted the trumpets they should shout as loud as they could and the wall would come down. Are you ready? (SFX: Trumpet blasts)

ALL (Captain leads hooray shout)

Hooray! (SFX: Wall crumbling)

Cody

Woah, dudes! Let's bite the dust! (Wall of older children fall to the ground.) **Dudes, that was awesome!**

Captain (cross to stage)

Aye, thanks for all your help. Give yourselves a big round of applause! You may have a seat. (All children return to seats.)

Cody (cross to stage)

Wow, that was whack! Those people behind the wall probably didn't know what was going on when they saw God's people circling their city.

Captain

Aye, they had the fear of God in their hearts.

Cody

I guess God had a plan after all.

Captain

God always has a plan. And Joshua and the Israelites learned an important lesson: We can always trust the plan that God sends!

Cody

Dude, I'm going to trust God's plans from now on, even if I don't always understand them.

Captain

That's called having faith!

Cody

Check it out, dudes, I've got faith!

Captain (SFX: Outro music)

And I have faith that you kids'll be back next time! So, until then, May the God of Wonders fill your sails and guide your path! (VFX: Closing Slide)

Cody

So long, little dudes! Keep the faith! (they exit)