



# Joshua and Jericho

Lesson Aim: To trust God to do the impossible to accomplish His plan.

## THE WORSHIP

Who God is: The God Who Sends

## THE WORD

Bible Story: Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20, 23

What He has done: God sent Joshua and His people to conquer Jericho.

Key Verse: Joshua 6:2

## THE WAY

Christ Connection: Luke 1:37

## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16

Unit 9: The God Who Sends			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
43	God Sends Manna and Quail, Exodus 16:4-5, 11-16, 19-20, 27-32, 35	God sent manna and quail so His people would survive in the wilderness.	To trust God enough to obey His instructions.
44	The Golden Calf, Exodus 20:3-8, 12-21; 32:1-4, 7-8, 19-20, 25-26	God sent the Ten Commandments so the Israelites could be His people.	To know our holy God requires us to be holy and obey the Ten Commandments.
45	The Wilderness: Water from the Rock, Numbers 20:1-13	God sent water from a rock to quench the Israelites' thirst.	To know when we trust and obey God with our words and actions, we are honoring Him.
46	Promised Land: Rahab and the Spies, Joshua 2:2-15, 17, 21, 23-24	God sent salvation through Rahab.	To see salvation comes to all who believe, so we must spread the word.
47	Joshua and Jericho, Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20, 23	God sent Joshua and His people to conquer Jericho.	To trust God to do the impossible to accomplish His plan.

## TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Psalm 33. Please join us in praying, "Thank You, Lord, for the plans You send us. Fill us with Your Spirit that we might encourage the children to trust and follow Your plans. Amen."

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**THE WORSHIP  
THE WORD &  
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b>	None
		<b>Game:</b> Battle For the Wall	Toy blocks or stackable items, masking tape, timer (optional)
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	<b>Worship</b> Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs available at ResourceWell.org	<b>Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song:</b> "For God So Loved the World" <b>Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions:</b> "Praise the Lord, O My Soul" "I Will Always Obey Your Law" <b>Additional Hymn Suggestions:</b> "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" "Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus" <b>Additional Song Collection Suggestions:</b> Shout Praises! Kids Gospel Songs 4 Worship KIDS - Awesome God
		<b>Worship Scripture Reading:</b> Deuteronomy 7:6	Bible
		<b>Offering</b>	Baskets
		<b>Worship Illustration</b>	Lesson 47 High Seas Adventures script or storybook
THE WORD	Up to 10	<b>Read the Word:</b> Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20, 23	Map—Jericho (a city north of Jerusalem), Bibles, Bible Story Scripture reference poster, highlighters
THE WAY	Up to 25	<b>Discussion</b>	Bibles, Christ Connection Scripture reference poster, highlighters
		<b>Christ Connection:</b> Luke 1:37	
		<b>Golden Bowl</b>	Golden Bowl, pencils, note cards
	Final 5	<b>Final Five Minutes</b>	Treasure Treat—Kazoos, Daily Ways, basket, paper, pencils, crayons or markers, Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song "For God So Loved the World," CD player
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	<b>Snack:</b> Wall of Cookies	Stackable cookies or crackers
	Up to 10	<b>Challenge:</b> Ten Commandments	Ten Commandments Challenge certificates (see ResourceWell.org) or make your own
	Up to 10	<b>Craft:</b> God's Plan Wall	Red sturdy paper, scissors, markers, tape
	Up to 10	<b>Discussion:</b> Joshua and the Commander	Bible
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> The Wave	Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible
	Up to 10	<b>Bible Memory Verse Activity:</b> Manna Scrambler	Large container to be the manna jar, paper, Bible Memory Verse Song: "For God So Loved the World," CD player, Bible or Bible Memory Verse Poster
	Up to 5	<b>Bible Timeline Review</b>	Timeline

**RESOURCES:** Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Getting started

## THE WELCOME

To spark anticipation, encourage arriving children to meet and greet one another with today's question.  
**Meet & Greet Question: What is your favorite musical instrument?**

### **GAME: BATTLE FOR THE WALL**

**Purpose:** Two teams will try to conquer each other's wall.

**Supplies:** Toy blocks or stackable items (See Teacher Tip.), masking tape, timer (optional)

**Prepare:** Divide the blocks into two equal sets and place the sets on opposite ends of the room. With masking tape, mark a line down the middle of the playing area.

**Teacher Tip:** If possible, borrow blocks from your church's nursery or ask families to bring in sets of blocks from home. If blocks are not available, consider using one or more of the following options: scrap wood, shoe boxes or other boxes, paper bags stuffed with newspaper and stapled shut, or bags of beans or sand.

**During the time Joshua lived, most cities were surrounded by a thick wall which protected the people from outside armies. Let's play a game where teams will try to take over the other team's city wall.**

#### **Directions:**

1. Form two teams. Send each team to one end of the room and have them work together to build a wall using all their blocks. Instruct each team to choose a name for its city.
2. On your signal, players try to take a block from the other team's wall and add it to their own wall. The following rules apply:
  - Players may only take one block at a time.
  - Players may defend their team's wall by tagging an opposing player who has taken and is holding a block from their wall. The opposing player must then give the block back to that team. However, the opposing player is safe if he or she crosses the midline into his or her own territory without being tagged.
3. Optional: Set a timer for the maximum amount of time for this activity.
4. Continue until one team has all the blocks or until you are out of time.

**To take over a city, armies usually fight a battle. Today, we will discover God had a different plan for how His people would take over the city of Jericho. His plan involved marching and trumpets.**



## The God who sends **THE WORSHIP**

**Teacher Tip:** To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting the offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play music as children move to the designated area.

### Worship in the Tabernacle

During each lesson of Unit 9, we will be teaching about an element of the Tabernacle during our worship time. This week, we will teach about the golden ark.



**Today, we worship the God who sends us what we need. He sent Joshua His plan for conquering Jericho. As we give our offering today, let's ask God to help us trust and obey all His plans for us.** Sing: "I Will Always Obey Your Law" while the offering is collected.

Sing Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song: "For God So Loved the World."

You may choose to sing songs that focus on trusting God's plan.



**Moses and the Israelites worshiped God in the tabernacle. The tabernacle was a large tent which the Israelites took everywhere as a place to meet with God. Inside was the golden ark, also known as the ark of the covenant. The ark was not a boat, but a golden chest to store the treasures of God's people. On the cover were two golden cherubim. In the Bible, they are described as winged creatures that live in heaven and support God's throne. The priests carried the golden ark as they marched around the city of Jericho. When we think of the ark, we can remember we are God's special treasure.** Volunteer reads Deuteronomy 7:6.



Perform High Seas Adventures script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 9, Lesson 47.



## Conquering Jericho

# THE WORD

**Teacher Tip:** As you move from worship to instruction, change rooms or locations within a room to help redirect the children's focus to the Bible story. During this transition time, have each child write his or her name on a card and place it in the Golden Bowl.

**Before we read God's Word, let's go over our Class Covenant. A covenant is an agreement. Just as God made a covenant with His people, I ask each of you to make this covenant promise with me today. Listen as I read our Class Covenant: "I will keep my eyes on my teacher, my mouth in control, my ears on God's Word; knowing God is my goal."**

**Last time, we learned God sent Rahab to help the spies.** If a Bible Timeline is available, point to Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.). For a Bible Timeline Review activity, see the GOT TIME? segment of this lesson. **Today, we will discover how God sent Joshua and His people to defeat the city of Jericho.** If a map is available, point to Jericho.



**Let's play Find It First! Bring out your Bible; keep it right in front of you.** Hand out spare Bibles. **Today's Scripture verse is behind the curtain** (or secret door, secret window, etc.). Child reveals the Bible Story Scripture reference: Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20, 23. **Let's see who can Find It First. Ready? Set? Go!** Children race to find it first. The winner helps others find it. **Let's highlight our Key Verse: Joshua 6:2.**

**Before we read, let's stand and ask God to open our eyes, ears, hearts, and minds to His Word today. Who would like to pray that for us?** Child prays aloud. **Be seated.**

**After wandering the desert for 40 years, God's people were ready to enter Canaan, the land He had promised them. To enter Canaan, the people had to cross the Jordan River. God stopped the river from flowing and they crossed on dry ground. Their first challenge in Canaan was to conquer the city of Jericho. Around Jericho was a thick double wall which protected the people of Jericho from armies who wanted to take over their city. Let's read about God's unusual plan to conquer Jericho.** Read Joshua 6:1-5, 8, 10, 14-16, 20, 23.



Trust God to do the impossible

## THE WAY

**In Bible times, how did armies usually take over a city?** (They would fight a battle.) **What was God's plan for conquering Jericho?** (The people would march around the city once a day for six days; on the seventh day, march seven times; on the seventh time, give a loud shout.) **What did God say He had done before His people even began to march?** (He had already given them the city.) **They only had to trust Him and follow His plan.**

**I have a plan to help you safely walk around this room with your eyes closed. Will you trust me?** (Children respond.) **Line up behind me, put your hands on the shoulders of the person in front of you, and close your eyes. Hold on tight and follow me.** Lead the children once around the room while their eyes are closed and they are holding onto each other's' shoulders. For larger groups, assign additional leaders.

**Why did you follow me?** (We trusted you.) **No one had seen a plan like God's plan for conquering Jericho. Just as you trusted me when you could not see, they had to trust and follow God's plan.**

**What did God say to carry with them?** (The ark of the covenant, also known as the golden ark.) **The ark held a jar of manna, Aaron's rod, and the Ten Commandments to remind the people of who God was and what He had done for them. Why do you think God wanted the Israelites to carry the golden ark during the march?** (Children respond.) **How might marching with the ark have given the people courage?** (Children respond.) **How might remembering God's miracles give you courage to trust God with your challenges?** (Children respond.)

**Conquering Jericho seemed impossible. What do you think people might have thought about God's plan to give Jericho over to the Israelites without any battles?** (Children respond.) **Do you have an impossible problem in your life right now?** (Children respond.) **Do you think God has plans for solving your problem?** (Children respond.) **What do you think His plan might be?** (Children respond.)



Connecting the Old Testament, the New Testament, and Us

## CHRIST CONNECTION

**Over 1400 years after God told Joshua of his seemingly impossible plan to conquer Jericho, God sent an angel to tell a young woman named Mary about another plan that sounded impossible. It was God's plan to save the world from sin. Let's read what the angel said.**



***FIND IT FIRST*** > **Everyone, place your Bible closed on your lap. Choose a child to reveal the Christ Connection Scripture reference: Luke 1:37. Let's see who can Find It First! Ready? Set? Go! Find it and highlight it. Read Luke 1:37.**

**God had a plan for His people to take over Jericho and He has a plan for you and me. Together, let's say His special plan for us. Recite the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse. What seems impossible about this plan?** (Children respond.) **How has God helped you believe in His plan?** (Children respond.)

# THE WAY *continued...*



Revelation 5:8

## GOLDEN BOWL

**Teacher Tip:** Write the names of classmates, local church leaders, and children in other nations or others who need prayer on small pieces of paper. Place the papers in a golden bowl.

**Revelation 5:8 says our prayers are like sweet smelling incense in the golden bowls at God's throne. I will lift each one of your names to God's throne as you pray for each person silently. Then, we will pray the Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) aloud together. Let's pray.**

**Lord God, we lift up to Your throne the name of each child here. We trust You to watch over us and our needs, the ones we say aloud and the ones hidden in our hearts. First, we lift up to You \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_. Read names in Golden Bowl.**

**Now, we pray the prayer Your Son taught us: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

## FINAL FIVE MINUTES

**TREASURE TREAT:** Today, your Treasure Treat is a kazoo. Each time you play your kazoo, remember to trust God's plan for you, just like His people did when they marched around the city wall and blew their trumpets at Jericho!

**DAILY WAY CHALLENGE:** Did anyone bring in a completed Daily Way from last time? Praise or reward those who return a Daily Way. Distribute Lesson 47 Daily Way 5-day Bible study. **Complete this week's Daily Way at home and let God speak to you through His own words in the Bible. Join the Daily Way Challenge by returning your completed Daily Way.**

**Teacher Tip:** Collect Daily Ways in a basket or other container and periodically reward children as a group for completing the challenge.

**OFFERING OF ART:** Until it is time to be dismissed, let's make an Offering of Art. For your offering, draw a picture of the Israelites marching around the wall of Jericho. The Offering of Art can be finished at home or given as an offering for the teacher to display.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** As children work on their Offering of Art, ask how you can pray for them this week. Write requests in a prayer notebook.

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE SONG:** Play the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song, "For God So Loved the World," in the background as children wait to be dismissed.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

## **GOT TIME?**

### **SNACK: WALL OF COOKIES**

**Purpose:** To enjoy a snack break while considering the way sturdy walls are built.

**Snack Suggestion:** Stackable cookies or crackers

**In our Bible Story, we learned how God's people marched around the wall surrounding Jericho. Archeologists believe it was actually a double wall. The inner wall was about 6 feet in thickness. The outer wall was about 12 feet in thickness. The wall is said to have been between 20-30 feet high. Imagine seeing that wall fall down. Before eating your crackers (or cookies), see how high you can stack them.**

**Directions:**

1. Give each child some cookies and a drink.
2. Ask a child to pray and thank God for the snack.
3. Ask the Snack Discussion Question: **What is the tallest or sturdiest wall you have ever seen or built?**

### **CHALLENGE: TEN COMMANDMENTS**

**Purpose:** Children show they have memorized the Ten Commandments and receive a certificate.

**Supplies:** Ten Commandments Challenge certificates (see ResourceWell.org) or make your own

**Prepare:** Print and sign the Ten Commandments Challenge certificates.

**Directions:**

1. Recite the Ten Commandments together.
2. Let each child who would like to do so, recite the Ten Commandments from memory.
3. Give Ten Commandments Challenge certificate to each child who recites all ten.

**Teacher Tip:** You may wish to have another leader call individual children aside to recite the Ten Commandments as you lead the rest of the class in other lesson activities.

#### **Ten Commandments**

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not bow down to idols or worship them.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honor your father and mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false testimony.
10. You shall not covet.



# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **TEN COMMANDMENTS AND EXPLANATION**

Use this list of the Ten Commandments with explanation for the Treasure Treat or to review the Ten Commandments in class.

- 1 **"You shall have no other gods before me."** *(Believe in the one true God.)*
- 2 **"You shall not bow down to idols or worship them."** *(Make God the most important one in your life. Put God first before any favorite activity, belonging, friendship, and even before yourself.)*
- 3 **"You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God."** *(Always speak respectfully and truthfully when you use the names "God" or "Jesus." Do not use His name in swearing or cursing. Only use His name when you are talking to Him in prayer or about Him to others.)*
- 4 **"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy."** *(Always take a day each week to rest and worship God in a special way by attending church, worshiping God with other Christians, etc. In everything you do that day, keep your mind on God. Think about who He is and what He has done for you and your family.)*
- 5 **"Honor your father and your mother."** *(Obey your parents. Talk to them and about them respectfully, no matter what.)*
- 6 **"You shall not murder."** *(Do not kill anyone. Jesus teaches us to never hurt or hate anyone.)*
- 7 **"You shall not commit adultery."** *(Stay pure and faithful to your husband or wife.)*
- 8 **"You shall not steal."** *(Do not steal.)*
- 9 **"You shall not give false testimony."** *(Do not lie.)*
- 10 **"You shall not covet."** *(Do not want something that belongs to someone else.)*

# GOT TIME? *continued...*

## **CRAFT: GOD'S PLAN WALL**

**Purpose:** Children will create a wall of paper bricks.

**Supplies:** Brown paper lunch bags, newspaper, markers, tape, stapler, staples

**Prepare:** Write "I will trust God's plan for me." where the children can see it.

**Optional:** Instead of using paper bags and newspaper, use brick-size pieces of red sturdy paper and tape them to a wall in your room or a large piece of poster board.

**God had a special plan for His people to take over Jericho. God defeated the city and destroyed the giant wall surrounding it. His people had only to trust in Him and His plan. We also learned God has a plan for each of us. Do we always know or understand His plan right away? (No.) But, we can trust that God is doing what is best for us, even when it seems hard or does not make sense. Let's build a wall to help us remember to trust God.**

### **Directions:**

1. Give a paper bag and some newspaper to each child.
2. Children copy the phrase "I will trust God's plan for me." onto their brick. Children may decorate the paper bags before or after stuffing them with newspaper. Also, have the children write their names on their bricks.
3. Children crumple sheets of newspaper and stuff them in the paper bag. Fold over the edge of the paper bag and tape or staple it shut.
4. Children stack the bricks together to make a wall.
5. Optional: As time allows, have children may make more bricks to add to the wall.
6. At the end of class, children may take one of their bricks home.

## **DISCUSSION: JOSHUA AND THE COMMANDER**

**Purpose:** To help children see how God sent the commander of His heavenly army to speak to Joshua.

**Supplies:** Bible

**Just before God instructed the Israelites to march around Jericho, He sent a special messenger to speak to Joshua. Let's see what the messenger said.** Read Joshua 5:13-15.

**Who was the messenger?** (The commander of God's army.) **What did he tell Joshua to do?** (Take off his sandals.) **Why?** (The ground was holy.) **Can you think of another person in the Bible who had to take off his shoes because he was standing on holy ground?** (Moses at the burning bush.) **Knowing what was about to happen to the wall of Jericho, why do you think the commander called it holy ground?** (Children respond.)

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16

### **GAME: THE WAVE**

**Purpose:** To help children memorize the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse.

**Supplies:** Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

**Directions:**

1. Assign one phrase from John 3:16 to each child or group.
2. As the teacher or a helper directs, each child/group quickly stands, says the assigned phrase while raising both hands up to the sky and back down to their thighs, and sits down.
3. Repeat three times, moving faster each time.
4. Challenge children to recite John 3:16 in another language, such as the Spanish version below.

*“Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo, que dio a su Hijo unigénito,  
para que todo el que cree en él no se pierda, sino que tenga vida eternal.” Juan 3:16*

### **GAME: MANNA SCRAMBLER**

**Purpose:** To help the children memorize the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song.

**Supplies:** Large container for the manna jar, paper, Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song “For God So Loved the World,” CD player, Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or Bible

**Prepare:** Tear paper into 26 flake-shaped pieces (about 4-inches x 8-inches) for manna flakes. On each flake, print one word of the Bible Memory Verse in large, bold print. Place the flakes in the manna jar.

**Directions:**

1. Display the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse poster or have a Bible open to John 3:16.
2. Children take turns selecting a manna flake from the manna jar until all the flakes are gone.
3. As the Unit 9 Bible Memory Verse Song plays, have the children race to see how quickly they can lay the John 3:16 manna flakes in order on the floor. The goal is to finish before the song ends.
4. If time permits, redistribute the manna flakes and play again.

**Variation:** Divide the group into two teams. Have teams take turns laying the manna flakes in order. The team who does it in the shortest amount of time is the winner.

**Large Group Variation:** If you have 26 or more children, have each child hold onto their manna flake. On your signal, have the children work together to line up so the John 3:16 manna flakes are in order.

# GOT TIME? *continued...*



## BIBLE TIMELINE REVIEW

God of Wonders Part Two studies the miracles and stories of the Bible from Genesis through Joshua. Review recent Bible stories to see the continuing story of who God is and what He has done.

**Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) What did Jacob give his son Joseph?** (A colorful robe.) **What did Joseph's jealous brothers do to him?** (They threw him in an empty well and sold him into slavery.) **What good things happened for Egypt and for Joseph's family as a result of Joseph being sold and taken to Egypt?** (His family and all of Egypt had enough to eat during the famine.)

**Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) What did Moses hear and see while he was tending his sheep?** (God's voice coming from a burning bush.) **What did God tell Moses to do?** (Tell Pharaoh and the Israelites God would bring the Israelites out of Egypt.) **What did God say His name was?** ("I Am.") **How many plagues did God send to make Pharaoh let God's people go?** (Ten.) **What did Moses tell the people just before God parted the Red Sea?** ("God will fight for you. You only need to be still.") **What did God send from heaven to feed the Israelites in the wilderness?** (Manna and quail.) **What was the covenant God sent to the Israelites?** (The Ten Commandments.) **What is your favorite story from their Israelites times in the wilderness?** (Children respond.)

**Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.) Who replaced Moses as the leader of the Israelites?** (Joshua.) **How did Rahab help the two spies Joshua sent to Jericho?** (She hid them and helped them escape.) **What was God's plan for conquering Jericho?** (The Israelites marched around the city with the ark for six days. On the seventh day, after a long trumpet blast, everyone shouted and the wall crumbled to the ground.)

### How to create a Bible Timeline from Genesis through Joshua:

1. Print each scroll on sturdy paper.
2. Choose a wall or other visible location to display the timeline.
3. Before each lesson, add the scroll for that lesson to the Bible Timeline using the list below. Add the two Unit 10 cards for God of Wonders Advent: Lessons 48-52.
4. To review the Bible Timeline, ask the corresponding questions as you point to the associated scroll.

Genesis through Joshua: Creation > Adam and Eve > Cain and Abel > Noah (Circa 2350 B.C.) > Tower of Babel > Abram (Circa 2100 B.C.) > Hagar and Ishmael (Circa 2065 B.C.) > Abraham and Isaac (Circa 2050 B.C.) > Isaac and Rebekah > Jacob and Esau (Circa 1900 B.C.) > Joseph (Circa 1850 B.C.) > Moses (Circa 1500 B.C.) > Joshua (Circa 1450 B.C.)

**Unit 10:** John the Baptist (Circa 7-2 B.C.) > Jesus on Earth (Circa 2 B.C.-33 A.D.)