

Older Kids Activity Suggestions

Unit 8, Session 2: The Battle of Jericho

Joshua 2; 6

1. Telephone game (before the Bible Story): Have your family to sit in a circle or a single-file line. Explain that a secret message needs to get from one end of the line to the other. Use Joshua 2:24 as the basis of your message. (*“And they said to Joshua, ‘Truly the Lord has given all the land into our hands. And also, all the inhabitants of the land melt away because of us.’”* Joshua 2:24). Feel free to divide the verse in half to play two rounds. Whisper the message to your child that is first in line. Then have your child whisper it to the next person. Each family member may only say the message once. Each person passes the message, and the last person speaks aloud what she heard.

SAY •The news about what God did for His people spread. The people of Canaan were afraid. Today we will learn about a miracle God performed to give His people their first victory in the promised land.

2. Memorize Scripture: This is our 2nd of 3 weeks practicing **Deuteronomy 31:8**. Read Deuteronomy 31:8 while your child marches in place and around the room. Have your child say the verse along with you as they march. Afterwards you can listen to “I Won’t Be Afraid” found here <https://youtu.be/YhAH2zU8UiU>. Have your child march and dance to the beat of the song.

SAY •I have to think the Israelite army had these words in their minds as they marched around the city of Jericho behind the ark of the covenant. God went before them in that battle, and He continues to go before us today.

It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed.
Deuteronomy 31:8

3. Battle trumpets: Take a piece of construction paper or printer paper and guide your child to write Shout to the Lord in the middle of the paper. Encourage your child to decorate around it with markers, crayons, or stickers. Help your child roll the paper into a megaphone shape and secure it with tape or staples, leaving the decorated side on the outside. Allow your child to play the trumpets. Read Deuteronomy 31:8 with your child while they play their trumpet.

SAY •Today we usually associate trumpets with music. But in history, trumpets were often used as communication tools, especially during battles. We read today that God’s people used trumpets in the Battle of Jericho. I have to think the Israelite army had the words from

Deuteronomy 31:8 in their minds as they marched around the city of Jericho behind the ark of the covenant. God went before them in that battle, and He continues to go before us today.

4. Discuss the Bible Story

1. Who showed faith in today's Bible story? How can we show faith? Remind your child that faith is a strong belief or trust in someone or something. Joshua, the Israelites, and Rahab showed faith by trusting God even when they didn't understand His plan. We can show faith by trusting God and obeying Him even when we don't completely understand His ways. (Read Hebrews 11:30-31.)

2. How did God's plan for the Israelites to take over Jericho bring Him glory? Lead your child to discuss the surprising strategy of marching around the city. On their own, the Israelites could not have knocked down the walls. God was with His people and gave them victory. Glory belonged to God, not to Israel's army. (Read Deuteronomy 20:4.)

3. How does God fight for us today? Guide your child to talk about how God intervened in Israel's battles. He can intervene in a situation today, but He often fights for us in ways we don't expect. Encourage your child to trust that God is at work for His glory and our good, even when He seems silent. We may face problems in life, but our confidence is in Jesus, who defeated sin and death once and for all. (Read Proverbs 21:31.)