



Date: _____
Series: **God is Awesome!**
Summer Year 2, Lesson 7

Joshua Fights the Battle at Jericho— and God Wins!

Bible Event: Joshua 6:1-21.

Take Home Point: * *GOD IS AWESOME! – Do what God says.*

*Repeat this phrase throughout the lesson. The leader will say the first part of the phrase (*CAPS*). The children respond with the second part of the phrase (*italics*).

Jesus Link: Jesus won the battle over our sin

What kids will learn about God in this worship experience:

- Children will learn that God can win any battle. Sometimes God uses unusual methods, like marching in circles and blowing horns to fight a battle, but he is always right. Kids will learn to trust God's plan and to live their lives God's way. Even if his way seems difficult, God will always help us win the battle in the end. Kids will take home the point: ***GOD IS AWESOME! – Do what God says.**
- Children will respond to God's love as they pray to him, thanking him for loving them and giving them Jesus. They will offer him their songs of worship, their offerings, and their actions of love, as they actively learn God's word.



Welcome Zone: (15-20 minutes)

Purpose: While kids arrive, give them a simple learning readiness activity that requires minimal supervision. This might include a video, games, blocks, or puzzles.

Video Suggestion: Choose a video and list it here. Option: *Beginner's Bible: The Story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho*, 1996 Sony Music Entertainment and Time-Life Video and Television.

Activity Suggestion: Blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons.



Opening Worship: (10-15 minutes)

Children can bring forward the cross, candles, Bible, offering plate, and treasure box. The treasure box contains the props used to tell or dramatize the Bible event. Open with a simple prayer, having the children repeat after you. Collect offering and talk about how God will use it.

Praise Songs:

Choose two or three songs and list them here.

Bible Event: Echo Pantomime

The group leader will tell the story in the left hand column, while leading the children in doing the pantomime actions in the right hand column.

Today, kids, we are going to pantomime actions to the Bible event about Joshua and the battle at Jericho. What that means is, as the story is told we will act out what is being said. Everyone stand up now and listen very carefully. Watch your leader so you can do the actions.

“Joshua and the Battle of Jericho”

JOSHUA WAS THE COMMANDER
OF ALL GOD'S ARMY.

(stand tall, sweep hands
over all the people)

ONE DAY,

(flip hand out)

GOD TOLD JOSHUA,

(point index finger up)

“I WILL HELP YOU WIN

(point to self)

THE CITY OF JERICH0."	<i>(form a box or building with hands)</i>
GOD TOLD JOSHUA, "MARCH THE SOLDIERS.	<i>(march in place)</i>
MARCH THE PRIESTS WITH THEIR HORNS.	<i>(march with hands blowing pretend trumpets)</i>
CARRY GOD'S ARK."	<i>(pretend to carry a box)</i>
THEN GOD ASKED JOSHUA, "SEE THE CITY'S WALLS?	<i>(point finger, then pantomime a large wall)</i>
MARCH AROUND THE WALLS FOR SEVEN DAYS."	<i>(march)</i>
SO THE ARMY MARCHED.	<i>(soldiers march)</i>
THE PRIESTS MARCHED.	<i>(march with horns)</i>
GOD'S ARK WAS CARRIED.	<i>(carry ark and march)</i>
ONE TIME ON SUNDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>
THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
ONE TIME ON MONDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>
THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
ONE TIME ON TUESDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>
THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
ONE TIME ON WEDNESDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>
THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
ONE TIME ON THURSDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>

THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
ONE TIME ON FRIDAY,	<i>(hold up one finger while marching)</i>
THEY MARCHED AROUND THE WALLS.	<i>(march in a circle)</i>
SEVEN TIMES ON SATURDAY	<i>(hold up seven fingers and march)</i>
MARCH, MARCH, MARCH, MARCH, MARCH, MARCH, MARCH	<i>(march)</i>
PRIESTS, BLEW THEIR HORNS – TOOT, TOOT!	<i>(hold hands in horn position)</i>
SOLDIERS SHOUTED, “YEAH, YEAH!”	<i>(march and shout)</i>
AND JERICHO’S WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN!	<i>(slowly squat down, trailing fingers to the floor as if a wall crumbling down)</i>
GOD GAVE JERICHO TO HIS PEOPLE.	<i>(offer hands up and out)</i>
THE PEOPLE GAVE GOD ALL THEIR GOLD AND SILVER.	<i>(hold hands out, and raise them to God)</i>
THANK YOU, GOD, FOR ALL YOU GIVE US.	<i>(fold hands in prayer)</i>



Action Zones: (20-30 minutes)

Purpose: Children move at their leisure to the activities according to their interest. Adults are assigned to oversee each of the zones, watching for safety, assisting any activity, and helping the children connect to the lesson of the day. All zones are introduced at the beginning of Zone Time. Some suggested zones are included below. It is usually best to have all children go to the Snack Zone first. Sing a blessing song or say a snack prayer together before dismissing to the zones.

During the Zone Time, children may arrive from mid-service dismissal if this is an option at your church. Be prepared to welcome the children and invite them to choose a zone.

Snack Zone: Provide small cups of pudding for each child. Give each child a plastic snack baggy and an Oreo cookie. Have them crush the cookie in the baggy (just like Jericho's crumbling wall) and sprinkle the crumbs on their pudding.

HEALTHY SNACK OPTION: Since "God is awesome—" and we want to "do what God says," lets grab some fruit, raisins, carrots or even some whole grain bread and take care of our bodies.

Drama Zone: Let the children reenact the story on their own. Provide costumes, horns to blow, and chairs, or tables, to represent the wall.

Puppet Zone: Let the children role play with the puppets. One puppet might complain that he doesn't like to follow instructions. The other puppet would then encourage him to follow God's instructions.

Felt Zone: Use felt board materials to show the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho from today's Bible event. (For example, materials can be found in #48, "The Fall of Jericho," from *Betty Lukens' Through the Bible in Felt*.)

Craft Zone: Provide large newsprint paper for each child to tightly roll into a long slender trumpet horn. Use tape to secure the newsprint. Provide a variety of colors of paint and sponge brushes to decorate the horns. Attach a pre-made label that says, "God Is Awesome! Do what God says."

Play Zone: Provide blocks and a table for children to build the city and the wall of Jericho, and then pound on the table to knock it all down.

Quiet Reading Zone: Basket of books, including any that contain the story of Joshua.

Music Zone: Your choice of music. Option: Provide horns and trumpets for the children to march with, while listening to a praise song. When the music stops, the children should all fall down.

Coloring Zone: “Joshua and the Walls of Jericho” coloring page.

Safety and Security: Safety and security procedures are important for each church to carefully define and implement according to their unique needs. The security, safety, illness and accident procedures described in this curriculum are provided for example purposes only and may not be appropriate, applicable or adequate for every situation. Each church is responsible for determining whether any security, safety, illness and accident procedures contained in the curriculum are appropriate, applicable or adequate for its unique situation. The activities described in this curriculum require adult supervision and may not be suitable for each child and each situation. Each church is responsible for ensuring that adequate adult supervision is provided for all activities and for determining whether an activity is appropriate for each child and each situation. Kids Kount Publishing disclaims all liability for the implementation of any procedures or the performance of any activities described in this curriculum.



Closing Worship: (20 minutes)

Purpose: As you empty the zones and clean up, begin the music so the children can start wandering over.

Worship Songs:

Choose one or two songs and list them here.

Bible Application with Puppet Presentation:

Purpose: The puppet demonstrates the need that will be met in today's lesson. The scripts are not written verbatim, but give a story line in which the group leader can interact with the puppet.

Bubba comes out holding a horn. The large group presenter wants to know what the horn is for. Bubba explains that he's trying to knock down walls by blowing the horn. The large group presenter asks the kids if a horn can really knock down a wall. They answer, "No." The large group presenter tells them that horns can't really knock down walls UNLESS God says they can. Sometimes God can say things and do things that don't otherwise make sense to us. We need to learn that God is always right and that we should do what he says.

The large group presenter continues to explain by giving some examples: If someone hits us, it makes sense to us to want to hit back. But that's not what God wants us to do. He tells us not to hit back. Or, if you go into the kitchen and there is only one cookie left, sometimes we just want to gobble it up all by ourselves. But God would want us to share it with our little brother or sister. Or, sometimes it doesn't seem to make very much sense to sing or pray to someone that we can't see. But God tells us to praise him and worship him that way even if it doesn't always make sense to us.

God is awesome! He always knows what is right and tells us the right thing to do. Even if it doesn't make sense to us, it always makes sense to trust God and do what he wants us to do. He is so awesome and so powerful that he can win great battles like at Jericho. But he can also help you and me to win great battles that we have, too. Do what God says – it works! Remember: ***GOD IS AWESOME!—Do what God says!**

Prayer Time:

Purpose: Allow children to contribute their own prayers. This will teach them to turn to God in both good times and in times of trouble. End with the Lord's Prayer.

"Children Pray" Options: (select one from the options below)

_____ **Prayer Train Option:** Children line up and take turns stepping in front of the microphone and speak their brief prayers of thanksgiving.

_____ **Prayer Chair:** Children stand in a circle around one child sitting on a chair in the middle. All children in the circle will lay a hand on the child sitting in the chair as they say a prayer together.

_____ **Popcorn Prayer:** The leader moves through the crowd with a microphone and taps children on the head to stand and speak their prayer.

Lord's Prayer: Lead the children through the Lord's Prayer, phrase by phrase, or let them pray the entire prayer along with you.

Blessing:

May God, who is all around you,
pour his love upon you.

(Beginning at the bottom of the circle, slowly make a large circle with your hands. Finish by bringing your hands down and wiggling your fingers to resemble rain.)

And Jesus, his life a sacrifice,
walk right there beside you.

(Slowly make a large sign of the cross. Then move your hands out to the sides.)

And may God's Holy Spirit,
the one who lives inside you,

(Cross hands over your heart)

keep you strong,
comfort, lead and guide you!

(Move to a "strong man" position. Then cross your arms with your hands on corresponding upper arms to communicate comfort. Bring one hand forward with "lead" and the other with "guide" to complete the blessing.)

Song of Sending:

Choose one song and list it here.



Closing Zones:

Purpose: Children go to an activity zone, such as the coloring zone, quiet reading zone, and children's Christian music video zone, as they wait for their parents.

Supplies:

Welcome Zone:

- *Beginner's Bible: The Story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho*
- blocks, toys, puzzles, paper, and crayons

Opening Worship:

- Bible

Action Zones:

Snack:

- pudding for each child
- an Oreo cookie for each child
- plastic snack bags
- spoons

Drama:

- character costumes
- horns
- chairs or tables

Video:

- *Beginner's Bible: The Story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho,*

Craft:

- large sheet of newsprint for each child
- tape
- various colors of paint
- sponge brushes
- pre-made labels, "God is Awesome! Do what God says."

Play:

- blocks
- table

Quiet Reading:

- basket of books, including one that has the story of Joshua

Music:

- trumpets and horns
- praise song
- CD or tape player

Puppet:

- various puppets

Felt:

- felt board materials to show the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho.

Closing Worship:

- Bubba, the puppet
- horn

Closing Zones:

- colored pencils
- paper
- basket of books