

WEEK 3

The Army of the Lord

The Story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho

Week's Objective:

To see how Joshua was orderly in the way that he listened closely to God and then brought together God's instructions to take over Jericho. Let's remember that God wants us to **Be Orderly!**

Prayer as you Prepare:

Father, it is not always easy to be orderly. In fact, it is really hard. Help me grow in my organization and neatness. I need to think before I act. Help my students understand this, too. Open up my ears in order to listen more closely to You and Your instructions. Amen.

IN THE CLASSROOM...

COLORING PAGE: Picture of Joshua and the walls of Jericho tumbling down.

Hear It:

OBJECT LESSON: JENGA

*Jenga blocks

Before you share the object lesson, set-up a Jenga tower. As you explain the object lesson, you will pull out blocks from the Jenga tower. At the very end of your explanation, pull a block out that will cause the Jenga tower to come tumbling down.

[LEADER SAY]: I love this game! Raise your hand if you have ever played Jenga. Jenga is a game of skill. You must be organized in order to win this game. The goal is to pull out as many Jenga blocks as possible without making the entire tower come crashing down. You have to be orderly and come up with a plan to win the game. If you just select any block without thinking about it, the Jenga tower will come tumbling down.

This reminds me of a Bible story about a man named Joshua. Joshua was given a big job from God. Let's listen to today's Bible story to hear more about Joshua and how God blessed him for being orderly.

STORY SUPPORT: WALLS OF JERICO

*Jenga blocks

Have your students participate by acting like the army of God's people. Every time the army walks around Jericho, have your students walk around the table. When the army gives a big shout, have your students give a big shout.

NOTE:

- Reconstruct the Jenga tower so when your students give a big shout a leader can knock down the Jenga tower as an example of the Jericho walls tumbling down.

Find It:

1. What was built around the city of Jericho for protection?
Thick, high walls
2. What did God tell Joshua about the city of Jericho?
That He handed it over to Joshua and the Israelites
3. Who did God want to march around the city of Jericho?
All the Israelites
4. What were the priests to carry and use?
Trumpets
5. What were the trumpets made of?
Ram's horns
6. How many times were the soldiers and priests to march around the city of Jericho for the first six days?
Six times—once a day
7. How many times were the soldiers and priests to march around the city of Jericho on the seventh day?
Seven times
8. What were the soldiers to do when they heard the priests give a long blast on their horns on the seventh day?
Give a big shout
9. What happened to the walls of Jericho?
They came crashing down.
10. As promised, who was kept safe when they took over the city of Jericho?
Rahab and her family

Say It:

1 Corinthians 14:40 – “Everything should be done in a proper and orderly way.”

See It:

Which item in the picture helped to crumble the walls of Jericho?

Be It:

[LEADER SAY]: Our Bible story this week reminds us that God wants us to be orderly. So what do you think it means to be "orderly?"

To be "orderly" means to be neat, tidy and organized. It also means that we do things in a particular way and order. We can be orderly in our cleanliness, behaviors and thoughts.

God shows us how orderly He can be in the detailed instructions He gave to Joshua. God wants us to follow Him in an orderly manner just like the army of God's people did in today's Bible story. When we follow God's instructions in an orderly way, it means we are really listening to Him, thinking about what He says and obeying Him. That makes God happy.

Show It:

Everything has its place when we are orderly. It looks like this sign shows an orderly situation with one box neatly next to another.

ACTIVITY: TRAIN CHAIN

Materials – Traffic signs (STOP, Slow Down and GO)

Play this game outside. Ask your students to stand in a straight line. Have them hold hands with the person to their left and the person to their right.

[LEADER SAY]: We are going to make a train chain and follow each other around church. We need to stay in order and not move too fast. Along the way, we may come across some traffic signs that we need to obey. If we are orderly, it will be easy.

Leaders should stay in the front and the back of the train. Have the front student walk slowly, following the front leader around church. Once everyone has had a turn to lead, head back to your classroom.

NOTE:

- The front leader should stay a few feet ahead of the line so they can occasionally show a traffic sign for the students to obey.
- Be sure to switch the students at the front of the line so everyone has a chance to lead.

FOLLOW-UP:

Would you rather be able to shout so loud that walls can crash down or be able to run without ever getting tired?