



# Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho

Joshua 2:1-24

Children have the ability to mimic or imitate others soon after birth. Imitating what they see and hear is one of the many ways children learn. It's important to be intentional about giving children opportunities to mimic your actions, attitudes, and behaviors. Doing so encourages their acquisition of new skills. It also benefits children's spiritual development. As you show and talk about your relationship with God, you're modeling belief in tangible ways that children can imitate and learn from.

## INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Joshua's Spies</b> Hear about Joshua's spies.		
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Hide the Spies</b> Use dolls to act out what happened with the spies.	2 dolls, blanket	
	<b>I Spy</b> Hear an action rhyme about believing in God.	blanket	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



**Bible Point**  
Believe in God.


**Key Verse**  
"Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:6-7).

**Weaving Faith Into Life**  
Children will learn that they can believe in God.





## TODDLER

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.	CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Believe in God</b> Hear what happened, and wave a ribbon on cue.	scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> red ribbon, “Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack) 	Cut the red ribbon into 6- to 8-inch strips. Tape a piece of red ribbon over the red cord on the “Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster. Display the poster where you’ll have toddlers gather for the Bible Exploration time.
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>The Window</b> Make Rahab’s window using the handout.	scissors, tape, one 6-inch piece of string per child, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Rahab’s Window” handout (at the end of the lesson), pen <b>Teacher Pack:</b> red ribbon strips from the “Believe in God” activity	Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Create a window on each of the “Rahab’s Window” handouts by cutting on the dotted lines and folding the flap back on the solid line.
	<b>Hidden Spies</b> Participate in a simple re-enactment of what happened.	blanket	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

**Bold text** within the lesson is spoken text.


The “Growing With Jesus” page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we’ve made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we’ve included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child’s pieces together.





**2-YEAR-OLD**



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p><b>1</b> Getting Started</p>	<p><b>Sing and Celebrate</b> Listen to or sing praise songs.</p>	<p>CD player, rhythm instruments like drums or tambourines (baby rattles would work as well) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD</p>	
<p><b>2</b> Bible Exploration</p>	<p><b>We Can Believe in God</b> Hear what happened, and wave a red-ribbon reminder.</p>	<p>scissors, tape <b>Teacher Pack:</b> red ribbon, “Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)</p> 	<p>Cut the red ribbon into 6- to 8-inch strips. Tape a piece of red ribbon over the red cord on the “Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster. Display the poster where you’ll have twos gather for the Bible Exploration time.</p>
<p><b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p><b>Rahab’s Window</b> Make a window to review today’s lesson, and hear a rhyme about Rahab.</p>	<p>scissors, tape, one 6-inch piece of string per child, My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Rahab’s Window” handout (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> red ribbon strips from the “We Can Believe in God” activity</p>	<p>Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Create a window on each of the “Rahab’s Window” handouts by cutting on the dotted lines and folding the flap back on the solid line.</p>
	<p><b>Rahab’s Rope Bracelets</b> Make a reminder of Rahab’s red rope.</p>	<p>2-foot piece of red yarn per child</p>	
	<p><b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.</p>	<p>My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)</p>	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*

The “Growing With Jesus” page at the end of each lesson includes an in-class craft or activity on one side and a take-home page for parents on the other side. We want to ensure all the information on the parent pages is retained, so we’ve made some adjustments to activities that require cutting. These pages may require a little assembly for parents to use at home, and we’ve included envelopes in the supply lists to keep each child’s pieces together.



# Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho

Joshua 2:1-24



BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## A Different Method

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As Joshua prepared to send spies into the Promised Land, no doubt he remembered the fiasco of 40 years earlier when Moses sent a large group of spies into the land. This time Joshua sent only two and gave them a very specific mission: Investigate Jericho. He sent them “secretly,” not wanting the Canaanites to know what they were doing and probably also to protect the Israelites from the distressful result of the first spy mission.

## Good Gossip

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It may seem suspicious that the place the spies went was to the home of a prostitute. However, it's likely that this was a place where gossip would abound. In addition, the word most often translated “prostitute” can just as accurately be translated “innkeeper.” Either way, it was a place where the spies were able to hear and gauge how the people of Jericho felt about the Israelites who were camped just across the Jordan River.

## A Woman of Faith

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Rahab, though she lied about hiding the spies in her house, had apparently become a believer in God through what she had heard about the Israelites’ experiences and conquests. She hid the men at great personal risk. She was commended for her strong faith in the New Testament in Hebrews 11:31. Note that God did not commend her for lying but for acting in faith and hiding the spies. God blessed her for that faith.

The end of this event lies beyond the scope of today’s passage. During the victory over Jericho, Rahab and her family were indeed spared from death (Joshua 6:17). Moreover, the New Testament attests to her faithfulness and includes her in the line of King David and of Jesus (Matthew 1:5)!

## The Jesus Connection

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Rahab’s faith landed her among Jesus’ ancestors. When we venture forth with a small act of faith, God responds and shows us his much larger faithfulness. In what areas of your life would you like to show more faithfulness to God? What are some ways you’ve seen God’s faithfulness to you? You can write your prayer asking God to use you to do big things. There’s nothing too big for the God of the universe who wants to lead and guide your life.

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**INFANT**

**1** GETTING  
STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate


**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

Sing or listen to "Please God" (track 15 on the CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" anytime during the lesson. As you sing, help infants clap their hands in time with the music.

 **Please God by believing in him,  
Believing in him, believing in him.  
Please God by believing in him.  
That's how we please God.**  
*(Repeat.)*

Afterward, say: ► **BELIEVE IN GOD**, [baby's name].

Sing "Believe in God" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore" anytime during the lesson. Sing to infants as you rock or change them.

 **Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.  
Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.**

Afterward, say: ► **BELIEVE IN GOD**, [baby's name].

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Joshua's Spies

**What You'll Do** ■■■■■■

As you hold an infant, tell about Joshua's spies.

Say: **Joshua sent two spies to Jericho. The spies believed in God.** Help the infant point up. **A woman named Rahab hid the spies.** Play Peekaboo by briefly covering baby's eyes with your hand and then pulling your hand away. **Rahab believed in God.** Help the infant point up. **The spies crawled out through the window.** "Walk" your



### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: "Please God"  
(track 15)





### Hide the Spies Supplies

2 dolls  
blanket

### I Spy Supplies

blanket

fingers down the infant's tummy. **God took care of the spies and Rahab. God was pleased with the people who believed in him.** Help the infant point up. **You can ► BELIEVE IN GOD, too.** Help baby point to his or her heart and then point up.

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Hide the Spies

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lay two dolls on the floor near an infant. Give the infant a blanket.

Say: **Here are the spies. The spies believed in God. Rahab hid the spies. Rahab believed in God. Can you help me hide the spies?** Help baby put the blanket over the dolls.

Say: **The spies are hiding. Where are they?** Look in several places for the spies; then help the infant pull the blanket off the dolls. **You found them, safe and sound! Rahab believed in God. The spies believed in God. God kept the spies and Rahab safe. We can ► BELIEVE IN GOD and trust that he'll keep us safe, too.**

### I Spy

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Lay an infant on a blanket on the floor or on a changing table, and say the following rhyme.

**I spy with my eyes a baby named** [baby's name]. *(look through hands like binoculars; then touch baby's tummy when you say his or her name)*

**I spy with my eyes a baby God adores.** *(look through hands like binoculars; then gently rub baby's head)*

**I spy with my eyes a baby God cares for.** *(look through hands like binoculars; then rub baby's hands)*

**I spy with my eyes a baby God loves!** *(look through hands like binoculars; then hold baby's hands and clap once for each word on "a baby God loves!")*

Say: **God loves you, little baby, and you can ► BELIEVE IN GOD.**



# Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

## TODDLER

### 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate

### What You’ll Do

Sing or listen to “Please God” (track 15 on the CD) to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb” anytime during the lesson. As toddlers sing, have them sway back and forth to the rhythm of the music.

**Please God by believing in him,  
Believing in him, believing in him.  
Please God by believing in him.  
That’s how we please God.**  
*(Repeat.)*

Afterward, say: **When we ► BELIEVE IN GOD, we please him.**

Sing “Believe in God” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Michael, Row the Boat Ashore” anytime during the lesson. As toddlers sing, have them sway back and forth to the rhythm of the music.

**Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.  
Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.**

Afterward, say: **We ► BELIEVE IN GOD.**



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “Please God” (track 15)





### Believe in God Supplies

scissors

tape

#### Teacher Pack

red ribbon

“Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

### Believe in God Easy Prep

Cut the red ribbon into 6- to 8-inch strips. Tape a piece of red ribbon over the red cord on the “Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho” poster. Display the poster where you’ll have toddlers gather for the Bible Exploration time.

## 2

## BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Believe in God

### What You’ll Do

Gather one or two toddlers. Let them look at the poster. Give each child one strip of red ribbon. Have the children follow you in the motions as you tell what happened.

Say: **Joshua was the leader of Israel. Joshua believed in God.** Show children how to wave the ribbon in the air. **Joshua sent two spies to check out the land.** Hold up two fingers. **The spies believed in God.** Wave the ribbon in the air. **Rahab hid the spies from their enemies.** Point to Rahab in the poster. **Rahab believed in God.** Wave the ribbon in the air. **The spies climbed through the window.** Point to the spies in the poster. **They trusted God to take care of them. The spies believed in God.** Wave the ribbon in the air. **Rahab tied a red rope in her window.** Point to the red ribbon taped to the poster. **She trusted God to take care of her. Rahab believed in God.** Wave the ribbon in the air. **We can trust that God will take care of us, too. We can ► BELIEVE IN GOD.** Wave the ribbon in the air.

Collect the ribbon strips from the toddlers for use in the next activity.





**3** WEAVING FAITH  
INTO LIFE

## The Window

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a "Rahab's Window" handout and a piece of string.

Say: **Rahab believed in God. She helped the spies go out the window with a rope.** Show children how to open their windows by folding back the flap in the window. Help each child tape one end of the string to the back of his or her handout so that the string can be dropped through the window. Then help children drop the strings through the windows. **Rahab put a red rope in her window to remind people she believed in God.** Give each child a red-ribbon strip. Help each child tape one end of the ribbon strip to the back of his or her handout so that the ribbon strip hangs in the window. **Because Rahab put the red rope in her window, God protected Rahab and her family. The red rope reminded people that Rahab believed in God. The red ribbon can remind you to ► BELIEVE IN GOD, too.** Set aside the completed handouts with children's names on them for kids to take home.

## Hidden Spies

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather one or two toddlers. Say: **I'm going to be Rahab and hide you.** Cover the toddlers with a blanket. If toddlers resist being covered completely, keep one end of the blanket up so they can still see out. In a deep voice, ask: **Where are the spies? Are the spies hiding? I can't find any spies anywhere. I might as well go away.** Use your natural voice, and say: **You can come out now! God protected you just as he protected the spies at Rahab's house.** As the children come out of hiding, cheer with them. **Yay, God! You kept us safe. We believe in you!**

We ► BELIEVE IN GOD.



### The Window Supplies

- scissors
- tape
- one 6-inch piece of string per child
- My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Rahab's Window" handout (at the end of the lesson)
- pen
- Teacher Pack**
- red ribbon strips from the "Believe in God activity"

### The Window Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 11 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Create a window on each of the "Rahab's Window" handouts by cutting on the dotted lines and folding the flap back on the solid line.

### Hidden Spies Supplies

- blanket





### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)

### Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player  
rhythm instruments like drums or tambourines (baby rattles would work as well)

**Teacher Pack**  
CD: “Please God”  
(track 15)

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).


### 2-YEAR-OLD

## 1 GETTING STARTED

## Sing and Celebrate


### What You’ll Do

Sing or listen to “Please God” (track 15 on the CD) to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb” anytime during the lesson. As twos sing, have them sway back and forth to the rhythm of the music.

 **Please God by believing in him,  
Believing in him, believing in him.  
Please God by believing in him.  
That’s how we please God.**  
*(Repeat.)*

Afterward, say: **When we ► BELIEVE IN GOD, we please him.**

Sing “Believe in God” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Michael, Row the Boat Ashore” anytime during the lesson. Distribute rhythm instruments for twos to use as they sing. For an extra challenge, encourage children to play the instruments on the word “hallelujah” only.

 **Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.  
Believe in God, believe in God.  
Hallelujah.**

Afterward, say: **We ► BELIEVE IN GOD.**



**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## We Can Believe in God

### What You'll Do

Gather twos together. Let them look at the poster. Give each child one strip of red ribbon. As you tell what happened, each time you say "Believed in God," have children hold their ribbon strips above their heads, wave them in the air, and say, "Believe in God." Practice with children several times before you tell what happened.

Say: **Joshua was the leader of Israel. Joshua believed in God.** Have children say, "Believe in God" and wave the ribbon. **Joshua sent two spies to check out the land.** Hold up two fingers, and shade your eyes with your other hand. **The spies believed in God.** Have children say, "Believe in God" and wave the ribbon. **Rahab hid the spies from their enemies.** Point to Rahab in the poster. **Rahab believed in God.** Have children say, "Believe in God" and wave the ribbon. **The spies climbed out through the window.** Point to the spies in the poster. **They trusted God to keep them safe.** **The spies believed in God.** Have children say, "Believe in God" and wave the ribbon. **Rahab tied a red rope in her window so Joshua and the soldiers would remember that Rahab believed in God.** Point to the red ribbon taped to the poster. Have children say, "Believe in God" and wave their ribbon. **Rahab trusted God to keep her safe. We can trust God to take care of us and keep us safe, too. We can ►BELIEVE IN GOD.** Have children repeat, "Believe in God" and wave their ribbons.



### We Can Believe in God Supplies

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scissors  
tape

#### Teacher Pack

red ribbon  
"Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)

### We Can Believe in God Easy Prep

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Cut the red ribbon into 6- to 8-inch strips. Tape a piece of red ribbon over the red cord on the "Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho" poster. Display the poster where you'll have twos gather for the Bible Exploration time.





### Rahab's Window Supplies

scissors  
tape  
one 6-inch piece of  
string per child  
My Bible Snuggles or 1  
copy per child of the  
"Rahab's Window"  
handout (at the end of  
the lesson)

#### Teacher Pack

red ribbon strips from  
the "We Can Believe in  
God" activity

### Rahab's Window Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 11  
pages from each My  
Bible Snuggles student  
book. Create a window  
on each of the "Rahab's  
Window" handouts by  
cutting on the dotted  
lines and folding the  
flap back on the solid  
line.

### Rahab's Rope Bracelets Supplies

2-foot piece of red yarn  
per child

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Rahab's Window

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a "Rahab's Window" handout. Say the following rhyme, stopping to help children tape the string and ribbon to the back of their windows at the appropriate times. Tape both pieces on the back of the handout so that they can be dropped out of the window.

Say: **Here is Rahab's window. She can look out at the sky.** (*show children how to open their windows*)

**Rahab believed in God. She helped God's spies hide.**

**Here is the rope that helped them get away.** (*give each child a piece of string*)  
**She lowered it out the window, late in the day.** (*tape the string on the back of each paper so it can hang out the bottom of the window*)

**Here is the red rope she hung for all to see.** (*give each child a red-ribbon strip*)  
**The red rope was a sign to keep them safe—Rahab and her family.** (*tape the ribbon on the back of each paper so it can hang out the top of the window*)

Read the rhyme several times, allowing children to lower the string and the ribbon at the appropriate times.

Say: ► **BELIEVE IN GOD.**

### Rahab's Rope Bracelets

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Work with one 2-year-old at a time to make a special rope-bracelet reminder of Rahab's belief in God. Have a child hold the center of a 2-foot-long piece of red yarn. As the child holds the yarn, begin twisting the ends together.

Say: **Rahab believed in God. She may have thought about God often. Then one day some other people who believed in God came to visit. They were spies. They needed a place to hide. She hid them because she believed in God.** Continue twisting until the yarn is wound tight.

**When it was time for the spies to leave, they said, "Take this red rope** (*show the child the rope that's been created*), **and hang it in your window. Then you and your family will be safe when we come back."** Let's tie this red rope on your wrist to show that you ► **BELIEVE IN GOD, too.**



Tie the yarn bracelet around the child’s wrist loosely, and let the child wear it. If time allows, ask the child to tell you what the bracelet means to give him or her an opportunity to express belief in God or thoughts about Rahab and her red rope.

## Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).



### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)



HOME  
CONNECT®

## Growing With Jesus



### Growing Faith

Children believe in what they experience, what we talk about with them, and what they observe in us. Try adopting the following practices to help your child see the significance your belief in God has to you.

- Make your times of sharing God brief and spontaneous rather than long and structured. It's more important that your children hear you recognizing God in your daily conversations than see you praying for long stretches.
- Let your child hear you talk to God on his or her behalf as you snuggle and cuddle.

**OK**  
TO COPY

Your child learned to believe in God (from Joshua 2:1-24). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

#### INFANT

##### Hide the Spies

Lay two dolls on the floor near your infant. Give your infant a blanket.

Say: **Here are the spies. The spies believed in God. Rahab hid the spies. Rahab believed in God. Can you help me hide the spies?** Help your infant put the blanket over the dolls.

**The spies are hiding. Where are they?** Look in several places for the spies; then help your infant pull the blanket off the dolls. **You found them, safe and sound! Rahab believed in God. The spies believed in God. God kept the spies and Rahab safe. We can believe in God and trust that he'll keep us safe, too.**



Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Use the cardboard tube from a roll of paper towels as a spyglass. Play I Spy with the spyglass to find things in your house. Talk about how we can find things we can't see but we believe in and we know are there, such as your love for God.
- Pray this simple prayer together:  
**I believe in you, God, and I know that pleases you.  
I believe in you, God, because you asked me to. In Jesus' name, amen.**

#### TODDLER

##### Hidden Spies

Say: **I'm going to be Rahab and hide you.** Cover your toddler with a blanket. If your toddler resists being covered completely, keep one end of the blanket up so he or she can still see out. In a deep voice, ask: **Where are the spies? Are the spies hiding? I can't find any spies anywhere. I might as well go away.** Use your natural voice, and say: **You can come out now! God protected you just as he protected the spies at Rahab's house.** As your child comes out of hiding, cheer with him or her. **Yay, God! You kept us safe. We believe in you! We believe in God.**

#### 2-YEAR-OLD

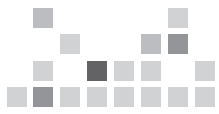
##### Rahab's Rope Bracelets

As your child holds the center of a 2-foot-long piece of red yarn, begin twisting the ends together.

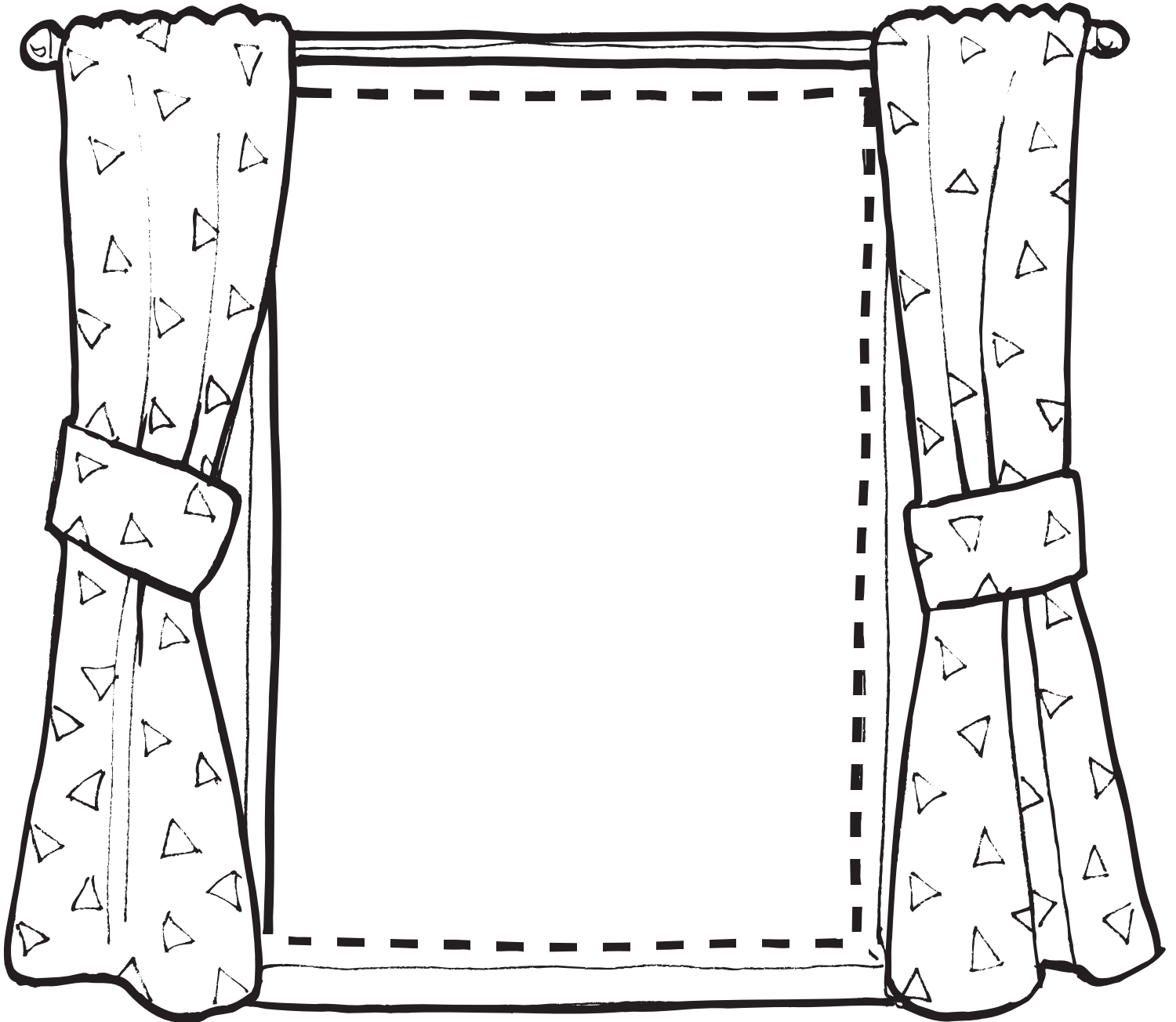
Say: **Rahab believed in God. One day some spies who believed in God came to visit. They needed a place to hide. She hid them because she believed in God.** Continue twisting until the yarn is wound tight.

**When it was time for the spies to leave, they said, "Take this red rope (show your child the rope that's been created), and hang it in your window. Then you and your family will be safe when we come back." Let's tie this red rope on your wrist to show that you believe in God, too.**





# Rahab's Window



**OK  
TO COPY**

Illustrated by Nancy Munger.



