

# God Gives Victory Over Jericho

Joshua 6:1-27

First- and second-graders are well aware of how small they are and how many things they need help doing. Because it's an abstract concept, they may not initially know what it means to go to God for things. But when the concept is connected to concrete examples, they'll be able to make the connection. Use this lesson to help children see that God is powerful enough to always care for them and never let them down, no matter the circumstances.



### ► Bible Point

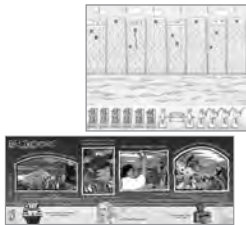

God's power works for good.

### Key Verse

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7).

### Weaving Faith Into Life

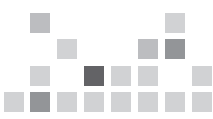
Kids will thank God for his power in their lives.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Getting Started</p>	<p><b>Power Tag</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Play a game of Tag to learn that they need God's power.</p>	Bible	
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Bible Exploration</p>	<p><b>Trumpets vs. a Wall</b> <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Learn about Jericho's wall, and make "trumpets."</p>	<p>Bible, scissors, marker, tape, paper <b>Teacher Pack:</b> "City of Jericho" poster, Bible Timeline</p> 	<p>Cut the poster into 3 horizontal strips as indicated by the cut lines. (Wait until directed in the activity to cut on the vertical cut lines of the top section.) Number the backs of the strips 1, 2, and 3, with number 1 on the top of the poster, number 2 in the middle, and number 3 at the bottom of the scene.</p>
	<p><b>'Round and 'Round We Go</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Act out the Israelites marching around Jericho.</p>	<p>CD player, trumpets from the "Trumpets vs. a Wall" activity, scissors <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, "City of Jericho" poster, "God Gives Victory Over Jericho" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)</p> 	

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

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Charged With God's Power</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Make "batteries" as a reminder to depend on God's power.	My Bible Fun, several pairs of scissors	Tear out the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
	<b>Power Prayers</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Write feelings about God's power in their lives.	My Bible Fun, pens	
<b>4</b> Lasting Impressions	<b>Daily Challenges</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	My Bible Fun, pens	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

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



# God Gives Victory Over Jericho

Joshua 6:1-27

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS

## God Promises Victory at Jericho

Archaeologists have found the site of ancient Jericho but are still uncertain which city is the one delivered into the hands of the Israelites because it has been destroyed so many times. In light of the curse put upon Jericho in Joshua 6:26, the archaeological findings are interesting indeed.

## Joshua Receives a Message From God

While scouting out the city, Joshua was no doubt surprised to see a man with a drawn sword in front of him (Joshua 5:13). We don't know if this was an appearance of God himself, a preincarnate appearance of Jesus, or an angel; however, we do know that he was someone sent from God. Notice how the messenger responds to Joshua's question: "Are you for us or for our enemies?" The messenger was the commander of the Lord's army. It was up to Joshua and Israel to be on the Lord's side, not for the commander to be on Joshua's side!

In the middle of God's message to Joshua, the writer stops to mention a very important fact in Joshua 6:1: The people of Jericho had closed up their city, counting on its strong fortifications to protect them. It was so firmly sealed that no one could go in or out. This meant that no one from Jericho would get in the way as the Israelites marched around the city walls!

## God Fulfills the Promise

Notice that God not only told Joshua what to do but also told him precisely what would happen (Joshua 6:5). Assuming that the word from God spread among the Israelites, imagine their increasing anticipation as the army marched silently around the city day after day and then seven times on the seventh day. The people knew

that God was about to do something spectacular! Just as promised, Rahab and her family were spared because of the faith she had shown in hiding the Hebrew spies. God's power worked to save her and the Israelites, while at the same time it was working to destroy the inhabitants of Jericho for their idolatry and immorality.

## The Jesus Connection

A relationship with Jesus allows us to walk in confidence, as his power of forgiveness has given us freedom. His love for us provides us with what we need to be clean in his perfect eyes.

Take a few minutes to write down as many words of prayer as you can that show the character of God. Each day, meditate on one of these characteristics and how God has shown those characteristics in your life. Give God praise, and acknowledge God's mighty work in your life.

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## Power Tag Supplies

Bible

# 1 GETTING STARTED

## Power Tag

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together.

Put children in two teams for a game of Tag. Explain that one team will represent people's power and the other team will represent God's power. Ask one child to be "It," and then designate an area of the room to be the "safe zone."

Have members of the People's Power team scatter around the room. Explain that the members of the People's Power team can only walk heel-to-toe, while members of the God's Power team can take giant steps.

Say: **If a member of the God's Power team links elbows with a member of the People's Power team, both players can take giant steps.**

Tell children that the goal is for members of the God's Power team to escort as many members of the People's Power team as possible to the safe zone before "It" tags them. "It" can tag only members of the People's Power team. If "It" tags someone who isn't linked with someone from the God's Power team, that person becomes another "It."

When children understand the rules, have them play Power Tag. After a few minutes, have kids switch roles.

Say: **In our game, people had a little bit of power, but God's power was much, much greater. Like that, people need God's power to help them. Our Key Verse today tells us about people's power and God's power.**

Open your Bible to 1 Peter 5:7, and show the passage to kids. Say: **Listen while I read our Key Verse: "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you." That means God wants us to listen to him and trust him to take care of us.** Lead kids in the adapted verse: **God's mighty hand cares for you (1 Peter 5:7).** Have kids repeat the adapted Key Verse with you several times.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How did God's power make a difference in this game?
- What was it like to be without God's power in this game?

- How would you compare people’s power with God’s power?
- How does God’s power work in our lives?

Say: **There are lots of things in life we’re just not powerful enough to do by ourselves. Today we’ll read in the Bible about a group of people who just weren’t powerful enough to do something on their own. They relied on God’s power, though. We’ll learn that ► GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD in our lives. Let’s find out what happened.**

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION

## Trumpets vs. a Wall

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Open your Bible to Joshua 6, and show kids the passage. Say: **God is so powerful. Today we’ll hear how he did something especially powerful to help the Israelites. We’ll also learn how ► GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD in our lives.**

Have children sit in a circle. Then show “God Gives Victory Over Jericho” on the Bible Timeline.

Say: **God told the Israelites to take over the city of Jericho. Jericho was a city that was built on a hill—a hill that looked like this.**

Remove the “City of Jericho” poster strip depicting the hill (section number 2), and show it to the kids. Then let kids help you tape the ends of the strip together to form a circular hill. Let the kids pass around the hill to look at it, and then set it in the center of your circle.

Say: **The city of Jericho sat on top of this hill. At the top of the hill, the people of Jericho had built tall, thick walls around the city. The walls were so thick that people’s houses were built right inside the walls! Let’s see how that might have looked.**

Show kids the top picture strip of the “City of Jericho” poster (section number 1). Let kids get a close look at the picture as you point out how thick the walls were and how people’s houses were built right into the walls. Show kids the scarlet cord hanging from Rahab’s window, and say: **One woman named Rahab helped the Israelite spies. This is her window.**



### Trumpets vs. a Wall Supplies

- Bible
- scissors
- marker
- tape
- paper
- Teacher Pack**
- “City of Jericho” poster
- Bible Timeline

### Trumpets vs. a Wall Easy Prep

Cut the poster into 3 horizontal strips as indicated by the cut lines. (Wait until directed in the activity to cut on the vertical cut lines of the top section.) Number the backs of the strips 1, 2, and 3, with number 1 on the top of the poster, number 2 in the middle, and number 3 at the bottom of the scene.



Invite kids to tape the city strip to the top of the middle strip showing the circular hill. Place the circular hill and city back in the center of the circle.

Say: **Before we find out what happened next, let's remember our Key Verse.** Have kids repeat the adapted Key Verse with you: **God's mighty hand cares for you (1 Peter 5:7).** Then invite kids to talk about what things the Israelites could do with God's power.

Say: **God told Joshua that the Israelites wouldn't need any weapons or tools to knock down Jericho's walls. God told Joshua that instead of weapons, the Israelites would use something else to win against Jericho. Here's what God told Joshua.**

Read aloud Joshua 6:2-5. Then show kids the final picture strip from the poster. Let kids help tape the strip to the bottom of the hill.

Say: **The Israelites knew that Jericho was a well-protected city. They must've wondered how trumpets could knock down those thick walls. Let's make our own trumpets to think about this some more.**

Distribute paper to children, and show them how to roll up a piece of paper to make a megaphone or trumpet shape. Tape the edges of kids' papers so their "trumpets" will hold their shape. Then let kids practice making noises with their trumpets.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What do you think about the way God told the Israelites to take over Jericho?**
- **Tell about something you need God's power to help you with.**
- **How does knowing you have God's power help you?**

Say: **God told the Israelites that by his power they would win the city of Jericho. God wanted the Israelites to understand that they could not win the city with their own power; they needed God's power. Our Bible Point tells us that ► GOD'S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD in our lives.**

# 'Round and 'Round We Go

## What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Show the "God Gives Victory Over Jericho" poster. Say: **Let's see what happened to the city of Jericho.**

Have all of the children hold on to their trumpets and form a circle around the circular city.

Say: **The first day, the Israelite army marched around the city once. No one was to make a sound except for the priests, who were to blow their trumpets.**

Allow all the children to act like "priests" so they can all pretend to blow their paper trumpets as they walk around the wall one time.

Play "Trumpeting" (track 19 on the CD). Pause the CD when kids have finished walking around the city once.

Say: **The second day, the Israelite army marched around the city again. No one was to make a sound except for the priests, who were to blow their trumpets.**

Have children walk around the wall one time and blow their trumpets. Play "Trumpeting" (track 19 on the CD). After the children have walked around the wall once, pause the CD. Continue, having children walk around the wall one time for each of the third, fourth, fifth, and sixth days.



Say: **On the seventh day, the Israelite army had different instructions. God told them to walk around the city seven times while the priests blew their trumpets. After seven times around, the priests would give a good long blast on their trumpets. When this happened, the Israelites were supposed to shout really loudly.**

Play "Trumpeting" (track 19 on the CD). Have the children walk around the wall seven times and blow their trumpets. When they've walked around the wall seven times, have



## 'Round and 'Round We Go Supplies

- CD player
- trumpets from the "Trumpets vs. a Wall" activity
- scissors
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: "Trumpeting" (track 19)
- "City of Jericho" poster
- "God Gives Victory Over Jericho" poster (from the Big Bible Poster Pack)



them give a loud shout. At that point, cut on the four vertical cut lines on the top section, and bend down the walls of Jericho. Turn off the CD player.

Say: **When the army shouted, the high, thick walls of Jericho fell down! The Israelite army was able to go right into the city.**

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How does what happened with the walls of Jericho help you believe in God's power?
- What can you tell others about God's power this week?

Say: **The Israelite army may have had a lot of very strong, powerful people in it. But no matter how powerful those people were, they still needed God's power. God reminded the Israelites that his power was greater than theirs. They didn't need to be anxious; they just needed to trust in God's power over their own. You and I don't need to be anxious either. We just need to trust in God's power over our own. Our Bible Point tells us that ► GOD'S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

# Charged With God's Power

### Charged With God's Power Supplies

My Bible Fun  
several pairs of scissors

### Charged With God's Power Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 13  
pages from each My  
Bible Fun student book.

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **God's power is so great that he knocked down the walls of Jericho. Let's make something to remind us to rely on God's power this week.**

Give each child a Lesson 13 My Bible Fun page, and point out the "Charged With God's Power" section on the page.

Distribute scissors, and show children how to cut out the "battery" and then the "charge level indicator." Say: **When a battery's power is getting low, the charge level will drop to the bottom. But when the battery has full power, the charge level will show that.**

Help kids cut a slit where indicated near the bottom of the battery. Show kids how they can slide the indicators into the slit from the back of the batteries and move them down to show low power and up to show full power.

Say: **I'll read a few situations. Show me with your batteries if the person in each situation is running on low power or the supercharged power of God.**





- I was having trouble keeping up at school. At first, I thought I should just handle it by myself. But then I remembered to trust in God’s power. I prayed for help, and I talked to my parents about my problems with school. Now I have a tutor, and I’m doing a lot better. Have kids hold up their batteries to show the charge levels.
- This boy down the street from me is always picking on me. He’s always riding his bike and chasing me, and he likes to knock my books out of my hands. I don’t want to be a wimp, though, so I’ll just keep dealing with him myself. Have kids hold up their batteries to show the charge levels.
- Sometimes when I’m afraid, it really helps me to remember things I’ve read about in the Bible. I think about all the times God has helped other people, and it reminds me that God is with me, too. Nothing is stronger than God, so I always feel braver when I think of him. Have kids hold up their batteries to show the charge levels.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How could God’s power work in those situations?
- How do you hope God’s power will work in your life?
- How can you trust God to take care of you?

Say: ► **GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD**, just like it did with the Israelites. We can always be sure that God will take care of us, and he’ll use his power to do it. This week, give all your worries to God and trust that he’ll use his power for your good.

## Power Prayers

### What You’ll Do ■■■■

Say: **Let’s thank God for using his power in our lives.**

Distribute pens. Have kids turn to the “Power Prayers” section of their My Bible Fun pages. Explain that on each brick of the wall, kids can write one word or symbol that

### Power Prayers Supplies

My Bible Fun  
pens





tells God how they feel about having his power in their lives. For example, kids could write “thanks,” “wow!” or “love” on the bricks. Or they could draw hearts or smiles.

After kids finish, let willing kids share what they wrote or drew with the rest of the group.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: **We can always pray for God’s power in our lives. And when we pray, it helps us know what to do. God’s always with us, and ► GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD in our lives. Let’s remember what God did to help the Israelites this week when we face struggles.**

## 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

### Daily Challenges

#### Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Fun  
pens

### What You’ll Do ■■■■

Say: **Let’s think about how ► GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD.**

Have kids find this week’s Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Each night before you go to bed, draw a picture of how God used his power to help you that day.**
- **Run around your front yard until you start to get tired, and then thank God for his power because when we are weak, he is strong!**
- **Whenever you use a TV, microwave, or radio, thank God for his power.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What’s a practical way you’re going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: **God used his power to help the Israelites conquer Jericho. Let’s be confident this week that ► GOD’S POWER WORKS FOR GOOD as we follow through on our Daily Challenges.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how God's power works for good in our lives. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

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

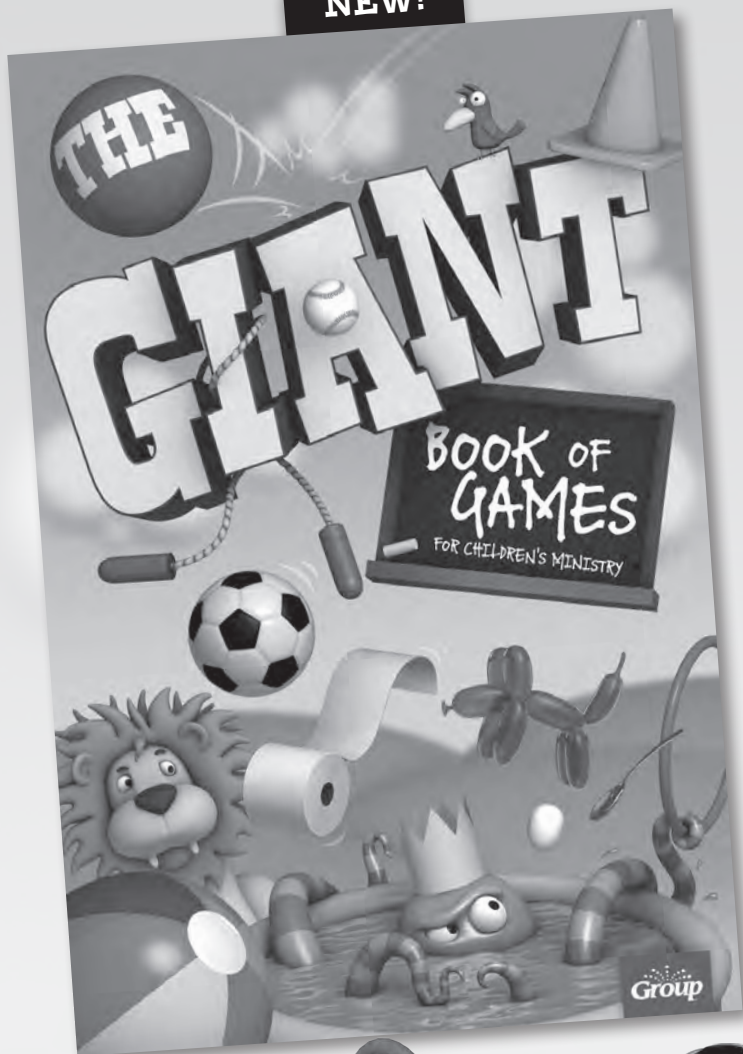
Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking God that he loves us and he uses his power for good. Pray: **God, we bring all our worries, hopes, and fears to you. We know that you love us and that you're powerful. Help us trust that you're always using your power for good. In Jesus' name, amen.**





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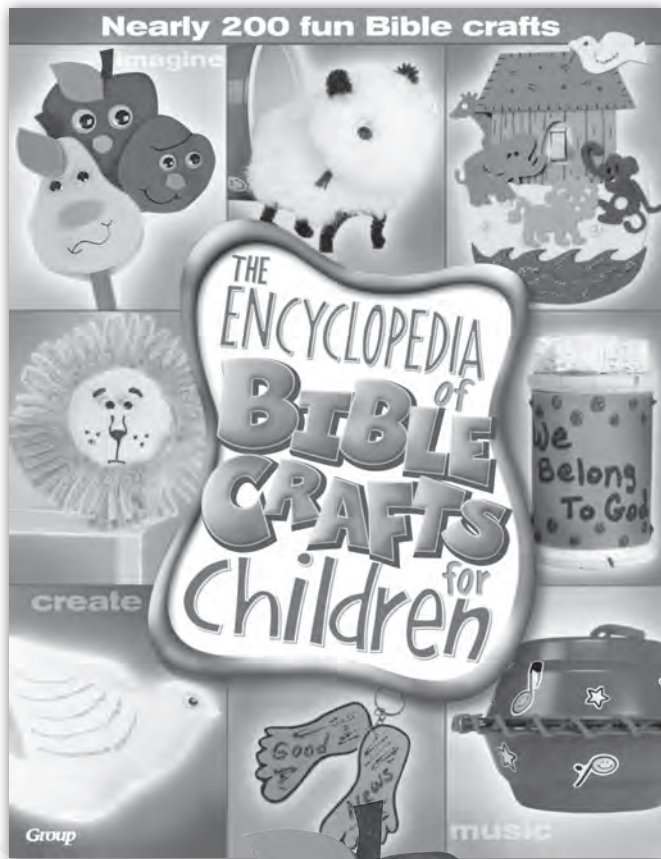
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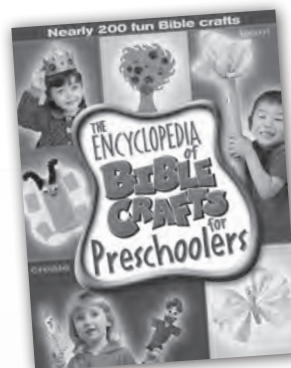
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