

# Explore It

## FOR LEADERS



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### JERICHO JOSHUA

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📖 **Joshua 6:1-11,15-16,20,24,27** The fall of Jericho

🎯 **Aim: To know what happened after Moses died**

In today's session we continue our journey through the wilderness with the Israelites. Sadly, Moses died, and God appointed a new leader, Joshua. The people reached the towering walls of Jericho, but it seemed impossible to get into the city. God gave Joshua specific instructions, and with the Ark of the Covenant taking centre stage, the city was defeated. God reassured Joshua and the people that his strength was always with them, and the same promise is available to us.

Each child will need:

- Bible verse wristband
- Pens/pencils and paper
- Party blowers (optional)
- Three sheets of A4 white paper, two wooden chopsticks, scissors, glue, sticky tape
- A brick-shaped piece of card – see Pray It
- Explore It Ideas handout

You will need:

- To watch *Joshua & Battle of Jericho* - BibleCraft by TNG Kids (5:48) [www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBcd5dP2W9g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBcd5dP2W9g) (optional) – see Action It
- Blu-tak and space to build a prayer wall – see Pray It

## Start It

Ask the children to imagine that they are the mayor of a city or town (it can be the place where they live). Tell them they have been given the job of creating a wall to protect the city. Give each child a piece of paper and ask them to design the perfect wall to surround their town or city. They can add extra protective features if they would like. Encourage them to be creative.

Share the ideas together. Later in the session, the children will discover how the walls of Jericho fell down following the marching and shouts of the people. You could refer back to this activity to see if any of their walls offered protection from loud noises!

If the children need ideas of what a walled city looks like, then an optional video clip is provided below. (Perhaps some children have seen city walls, even in the UK.)

### Video

*Top 22 Most Impressive Walled Cities in the World* by GrazieVlog Ph (2:54)  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uweHpWfc-o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7uweHpWfc-o)

## Sing It

🗣️ **Say:** This month we are continuing the story of the Israelites. At this point in the story Moses had died and God had appointed a new leader, Joshua. Our memory verse for this month is the words God said to Joshua when he became the leader of the Israelites.

Give each child a wristband and share the memory verse together.

## Memory verse

**'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.'**

— (Joshua 1:9 NIV)

**Say:** Each week we will learn a different song that helps us to remember our memory verse.

'Memory verse song – Joshua 1:9' by Hillsong Kids (1:48)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iyp7WNusPDg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iyp7WNusPDg)

## Tell It

**Say:** In our *Explore It* sessions last month we followed Moses and the Israelites as God guided them through the wilderness. God gave the Israelites special rules to follow called the Ten Commandments. The rules were written on two stone tablets.

**Ask:** What did God ask the people to build to carry the stone tablets?

**Say:** As we continue our journey with the Israelites, the Ark of the Covenant plays an important part in the story. Moses continued to lead the people but sadly died before they reached the Promised Land. The people needed a new leader, and that's what our story is all about today.

## Video

*The Walls of Jericho* – Stories of the Bible by Saddleback Kids (3:15)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAv9rZl2U5g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAv9rZl2U5g)

### Discuss:

- Who did Joshua send to check out what was happening in Jericho? Who helped them stay safe while they were there?
- In the Israelite camp, Joshua was visited by the Commander of the Army of the Lord. What message did he have for Joshua?
- What did God tell Joshua and his soldiers to do?
- What part did the Ark of the Covenant play in the march? Why do you think it had such an important part to play?
- What happened as the people shouted and marched around the city walls?

Read the following Scripture from Joshua 6:1-11,15-16. At the appropriate part in the story, encourage the children to march around the room seven times. If you are feeling particularly brave, you could give each child a party blower to make as much 'trumpet noise' as possible while they march.

### Read:

**'Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.'**

**'Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."**

**'So Joshua son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant of the Lord and have seven priests carry trumpets in front of it." And he ordered the army, "Advance! March around the city, with an armed guard going ahead of the ark of the Lord."**

**'When Joshua had spoken to the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets before the Lord went forward, blowing their trumpets, and the ark of the Lord's covenant followed them. The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew**

**the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark. All this time the trumpets were sounding. But Joshua had commanded the army, "Do not give a war cry, do not raise your voices, do not say a word until the day I tell you to shout. Then shout!" So he had the ark of the Lord carried around the city, circling it once. Then the army returned to camp and spent the night there.'**

— (Joshua 6:1-11 *NIV*)

**'On the seventh day, they got up at daybreak and marched around the city seven times in the same manner, except that on that day they circled the city seven times. The seventh time round, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city!"'**

— (vv15-16 *NIV*)

After reading the story, discuss with the children why they think the walls came tumbling down. Did it happen because the Israelites made a lot of noise? Explain to the children that it was through God's strength that Joshua and the people were able to defeat the Israelites.

## Action It

**Say:** Today you will make your own mini version of the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho.

The following clip explains how to create a mini version of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho. It can be used with the whole group to explain the activity or to provide instructions for the group leader to share with the children.

### Video

*Joshua & Battle of Jericho* – BibleCraft by TNG Kids (5:48)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBcd5dP2W9g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NBcd5dP2W9g)

## Pray It

**Say:** Our memory verse for this month reminds us that God is with us wherever we go. Let's share it again together.

**'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.'**

— (Joshua 1:9 *NIV*)

**Say:** Because we have this assurance that God is with us, we can turn to him whenever we feel afraid. We don't need to be strong on our own as we can rely on God's strength.

Ask the children to think of a situation where they need God's strength. Discuss ideas together as a group. Give each child a brick-shaped piece of card. The children can use the card to write a prayer asking God for his help and strength in this situation. When the children have finished their prayers, then build a prayer wall using all of their bricks. Bring the time of prayer to a close. If required, the following piece of music can be used while the children write their prayers. The children don't need to watch the clip; it can be used as background music.

### Listen

'Be strong' – Joshua 1:9 by Truth Songs (2:43)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHU64CryLog](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHU64CryLog)

## Explore It

Remember to send home the *Explore It Ideas* for children and families.

# Explore It

## IDEAS

Here are some ideas for you to explore at home

SEPTEMBER  
SESSION 01

### JERICHO JOSHUA

 Joshua 6:1-11,15-16,20,24,27 The fall of Jericho

© Aim: To know what happened after Moses died

## FOR ME



### Discover

Watch this clip which retells the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho in a totally different way.

How could you retell the story?

*Jericho (Re-visited)* by Chicago Staff Band

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkZFrXuURIk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkZFrXuURIk)

## TOGETHER



### Share

In today's Explore It session, you created your own mini version of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho. Using your creation, tell the people at home the story of Joshua and the Israelites as they defeated the city of Jericho.



### Song for the week

'Memory verse song – Joshua 1:9' by Hillsong Kids

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyp7WNusPDg](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyp7WNusPDg)



### Memory verse

**'Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.'**

— (Joshua 1:9 NIV)

### KIDS ALIVE! ONLINE

<https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/kidsalive>

*Kids Alive!* The UK's only weekly Christian comic – is filled with jokes, competitions, Bible-based cartoons and much more... and is now available to read online!

