

CROSSOVER

WEEK 2

BIG IDEA

God gives extraordinary strength.

BIBLE

Joshua and Jericho: Joshua 6; (Joshua 1:9)

WHAT?

ACTIVITY | Strong Arm

- You guys seem to be a pretty strong group. Who here thinks they can beat me in arm wrestling? Oh, you do? You do? Okay, come on up here and show me whatcha got!
- Okay, we've demonstrated our strength a bit. Today's story is about a leader who was going to defeat someone. But instead of using physical strength, he used a very strange weapon.

THE BIG IDEA | God gives extraordinary strength.

SO WHAT?

SCRIPTURE | Joshua 6

- **INSTRUCTIONS:-**
 - *Watch this week's lesson video from our website.*
 - *Print out the coloring page for kids to color during the story.*

- *Summarize the Bible story from Joshua 6. You can also ask the kids to participate by reenacting parts of the story, such as walking around the city with trumpets, etc. Here is one way to summarize the story:*
- This story comes from the Book of Joshua, chapter six. Some time after God rescued the Israelites from Egypt, the people were camped out near a city called Jericho. Jericho was an unfriendly place, so much so that they had a huge wall around their city and would not allow the Israelites to come inside the city gates. But God told Joshua the city of Jericho would be theirs. God told Joshua to be strong and courageous because God would be with the Israelites wherever they went. All Joshua had to do was follow God's plan.
- Do you want to know what the plan was? Seven priests – not soldiers – each carrying a trumpet – not weapons! – slowly began walking around the walls of the city.-(*You may choose to ask volunteers to act this out with props. You could even have the entire group stand up and follow you around the room in a circle.*)-The rest of the Israelites marched, too, around the walls of the city. Day after day after day. For six days they marched around the walls of Jericho. Then, on the seventh day, they were to march seven times and on the seventh time around, the priests were going to blow their trumpets and all of the people were going to yell.
- Well, they did exactly as God said, and guess what happened? The walls of Jericho fell down! These huge walls just crumbled to the ground from just the sound of trumpets and people yelling (*Tell the kids to yell and cheer as loudly as they can!*)!
- A little bit of a side story:-**do any of you remember who Rahab is?**-She's the one who took a risk by hiding the Israelite spies, right? When they left, they told her to tie a scarlet rope in her window so they could protect her when Jericho fell. And guess what? Rahab and her family were indeed saved when the walls fell!

- Joshua probably wondered how marching and yelling could make walls fall, but he did not question God. And when the walls of Jericho fell, Joshua knew God had given him extraordinary strength to do something amazing.

OBJECT LESSON | Knock Down The Walls

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**-*The kids will build the "walls of Jericho" out of blocks and then march around it seven times. Then, they'll blow a kazoo or shake a noisemaker while they toss a beanbag (or something else soft) at the walls to knock it down. If you have a very large group, you can split them into a marching group and a group that knocks down the walls.*
- Okay, friends, we are going to build Jericho's walls! We're going to use these building blocks to build the tallest city walls we can while still making sure the walls are steady and secure. Let's make sure we're working together in a friendly way while we build, okay?
- These walls look super sturdy! Now, we need to march around the walls like the Israelites marched around Jericho.-**How many times did they have to march around it for the walls to fall down?**That's right, it was seven times. So, we're going to march around these walls seven times and then on the seventh time, we're all going to play our musical instruments as loudly as we can, and we're going to toss our beanbags at the walls to knock them down. Ready? Set? GO!
- With just the power of your noisemakers and (*wink*) a little help from some beanbags, you knocked those walls right down! God definitely gave Joshua some interesting instructions about how to conquer the city of Jericho. Marching and making noise sounds pretty silly! Deep down, some of those people probably doubted it would work, don't you think? But they still put their faith in God and God gave them strength.

SCRIPTURE | Proverbs 3:5-6

- **INSTRUCTIONS:**-*Read the Bible passage.*

- Joshua was given instructions from God on how to conquer the city of Jericho. It probably was not what he expected. But instead of questioning God or not doing as he was asked, Joshua trusted God. He didn't rely on his own ideas or his own strength and power. And because he trusted God, he was given extraordinary strength.

NOW WHAT?

RESPONSE | Extraordinary Strength

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *-Pass out index cards and something the kids can write or draw with. Ask each kid to write or draw on an index card something or some situation in which they need extraordinary strength. Once every kid has their card written, tape them up, making a wall out of their cards.*
- On this index card, write or draw some situation where you need extraordinary strength, just like Joshua did. You probably don't need to conquer a city. But maybe you need help being brave at a new school, or maybe you need help saying sorry for hurting someone, or maybe you need some help focusing on and studying for a big test at school. Think about the things you need to do, pick one, and then draw or write it down.

ACTIVITY | Ready, Set, Build

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** *-You'll need one, small LEGO building set per small group, with all of them being the same set. The LEGO City and LEGO Creator are great options. Set a timer for five minutes (three, if it's very simple) and see if the groups can build the set without the instructions. After the time is up, ask them to deconstruct it all, and then give them the instructions and try again. Another option would be to split up your existing LEGO collection into a few heaps and tell them to build a fortress at first, then give them a picture the second time around ([like this simple fortress](#)).*

- Okay! Each group has a set of LEGOs and a picture they're going to try to recreate. You get five minutes and no instructions. GO!
- ... and stop! Yeah, soooooo... looks like it didn't go all that well. Let's try it one more time, but this time, we'll use instructions.
- ... and stop! Much better! It can be frustrating when there is something you have to or want to do, but you don't have any idea how to do it. Some of you may have noticed that your set was missing the instructions and the box which normally has a picture of the end result. Joshua didn't have a clear picture of what was going to happen, but he listened and did as God told him to, even though it sounded crazy. And the walls fell just like God said they would.

MEMORY VERSE | Ephesians 3:20 (NIV)

God is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine.