

## June 17, 2020 - Stay at Home Picnic

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

While we can't physically gather at a park pavilion, we can still learn together. Below you will find ideas for all ages to explore this fascinating story. Plan your dinner, outside if possible, choose which ideas you want to use, take pictures to share, and have fun!

Adults: See below the details about the Adult Zoom Bible Study  
with Pastor Snyder

Joshua / Rahab and the walls of Jericho  
Joshua 1:1-3, 2:1-15, 3:14-18, 5:10-15, 6:8-26



This story marks the beginning of Israel's returning to the Promised land. The land that God gave to Abraham and promised to Moses. Joshua becomes the leader of Israel at the death of Moses. He receives instructions from God on how to cross the Jordan and begin to take back the land. Joshua was faithful and courageous as he followed God's instructions.

"The complete devastation of the city represents the radical break between the old Canaanite society and the new Israelite one." (pg. 276 comments from The New Oxford Annotated Bible C. 1991) Rahab showed great courage and faith in God and thus she and her extended family are saved. The saved lives of the prostitute Rahab and her family may show the continued presences of Canaanite people in Israel. (OXB pg. 277) Rahab eventually marries Salome and bears a son named Boaz. She becomes the great great grandmother of King David and part of the lineage of Jesus. (Matthew 1:1-17)

## Preparations and materials –(Optional)

- Collect materials to build a wall like the wall around Jericho. (empty food boxes, legos, blocks, use your imagination.)
- Tape or sticks to mark the edges of the Jordan River.
- Children's Bible and or adult Bible
- If using any internet links, check to see that the links work.
- Picnic dinner food.

Here are some ideas to explore this lesson with a variety of ages.

- Read the story from a children's Bible. (Some do not include Rahab's part of the story.) The crossing of the Jordan is also a fun part to retell. It happens similarly to the crossing of the Red Sea with Moses.
- Watch the story from Veggie Tales  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&ru=%2fvideos%2fsearch%3fq%3djoshua%2bfought%2bthe%2bbattle%2bof%2bjericho%2bsong%26qpvt%3djoshua%2bfought%2bthe%2bbattle%2bof%2bjericho%2bsong%26FORM%3dVDRE&qpvt=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&view=detail&mid=12CC8418792CF96E8C3712CC8418792CF96E8C37&&FORM=VDRVRV>
- Watch a longer version on You Tube. Approx. 27 minutes  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s5R42Q6aeoI>
- Read the story from an adult Bible. **Joshua 1:1-3, 2:1-15, 3:14-18, 5:10-15, 6:8-26** (see complete story below)
- Ask questions and discuss the story. Some examples of questions include
  - What would it have been like to have been one of the people in the story?
  - What would you have done?
  - How do you think that person felt?
  - How was God working in Rahab? In Joshua?
- Act out the story....
  - Build a wall like the wall of Jericho. Use empty food boxes, Legos, wooden blocks, use your imagination.
  - Mark a Jordan River with masking tape on the floor or sticks in the yard.

- Make shofars-rams horns out of rolled construction paper, computer paper, empty paper towel rolls, and use other items for noise makers (pots and pans!)
- **Take pictures of your wall, river and actors and share with Patee Pizzirusso at the church office [st.paulsyork@comcast.net](mailto:st.paulsyork@comcast.net);**
- **Log into the Adult Zoom Bible Study let by Pastor William Snyder at 7:00 PM on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Watch for the link coming next week in an email.**
- Sing along with the song **Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho**
  - (version with Children singing and acting out story)  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&qpv=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&view=detail&mid=D8F2588265FD905502D7D8F2588265FD905502D7&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Djoshua%2Bfought%2Bthe%2Bbattle%2Bof%2Bjericho%2Bsong%26qpvt%3Djoshua%2Bfought%2Bthe%2Bbattle%2Bof%2Bjericho%2Bsong%26FORM%3DVDRE>
  - (version with teenage dancers singing)  
<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&qpv=joshua+fought+the+battle+of+jericho+song&view=detail&mid=DC0DD857A99F47202FB7DC0DD857A99F47202FB7&&FORM=VRDGAR&ru=%2Fvideos%2Fsearch%3Fq%3Djoshua%2Bfought%2Bthe%2Bbattle%2Bof%2Bjericho%2Bsong%26qpvt%3Djoshua%2Bfought%2Bthe%2Bbattle%2Bof%2Bjericho%2Bsong%26FORM%3DVDRE>
- **Pray: Thank you Lord for being with Joshua and Rahab. Thank you for being with us today and always. Bless this food that we share. We pray in your Son's name. Amen.**
- Enjoy your picnic dinner. Once the Israelites crossed the Jordan River into the promised land, they no longer received the manna from God but began to eat from the land. Discuss what it must have been like to finally have fresh food instead of the manna provided by God.



# God's Commission to Joshua

**1** After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying, <sup>2</sup> "My servant Moses is dead. Now proceed to cross the Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the Israelites. <sup>3</sup> Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, as I promised to Moses.

## Spies Sent to Jericho

**2** Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went, and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and spent the night there. <sup>2</sup> The king of Jericho was told, "Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land." <sup>3</sup> Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come only to search out the whole land." <sup>4</sup> But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, "True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. <sup>5</sup> And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them." <sup>6</sup> She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. <sup>7</sup> So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

<sup>8</sup> Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof <sup>9</sup> and said to the men: "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that dread of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. <sup>10</sup> For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea<sup>[a]</sup> before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. <sup>11</sup> As soon as we heard it, our hearts melted, and there was no courage left in any of us because of you. The LORD your God is indeed God in heaven above and on earth below. <sup>12</sup> Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the LORD that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith <sup>13</sup> that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death." <sup>14</sup> The men said to her, "Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the LORD gives us the land."

<sup>15</sup> Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself.

**3** <sup>14</sup>When the people set out from their tents to cross over the Jordan, the priests bearing the ark of the covenant were in front of the people. <sup>15</sup>Now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest. So when those who bore the ark had come to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the edge of the water, <sup>16</sup>the waters flowing from above stood still, rising up in a single heap far off at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, while those flowing toward the sea of the Arabah, the Dead Sea,<sup>[a]</sup> were wholly cut off. Then the people crossed over opposite Jericho. <sup>17</sup>While all Israel were crossing over on dry ground, the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood on dry ground in the middle of the Jordan, until the entire nation finished crossing over the Jordan.

## The Passover at Gilgal

**5** <sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

## Joshua's Vision

<sup>13</sup>Once when Joshua was by Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing before him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you one of us, or one of our adversaries?" <sup>14</sup>He replied, "Neither; but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and he said to him, "What do you command your servant, my lord?" <sup>15</sup>The commander of the army of the LORD said to Joshua, "Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.

**6** <sup>8</sup>As Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them. <sup>9</sup>And the armed men went before the priests who blew the trumpets; the rear guard came after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. <sup>10</sup>To the people Joshua gave this command: "You shall not shout or let your voice be heard, nor shall you utter a word, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout." <sup>11</sup>So the ark of the LORD went around the city, circling it once; and they came into the camp, and spent the night in the camp.

<sup>12</sup> Then Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD. <sup>13</sup> The seven priests carrying the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD passed on, blowing the trumpets continually. The armed men went before them, and the rear guard came after the ark of the LORD, while the trumpets blew continually. <sup>14</sup> On the second day they marched around the city once and then returned to the camp. They did this for six days.

<sup>15</sup> On the seventh day they rose early, at dawn, and marched around the city in the same manner seven times. It was only on that day that they marched around the city seven times.

<sup>16</sup> And at the seventh time, when the priests had blown the trumpets, Joshua said to the people, "Shout! For the LORD has given you the city. <sup>17</sup> The city and all that is in it shall be devoted to the LORD for destruction. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall live because she hid the messengers we sent. <sup>18</sup> As for you, keep away from the things devoted to destruction, so as not to covet<sup>[a]</sup> and take any of the devoted things and make the camp of Israel an object for destruction, bringing trouble upon it. <sup>19</sup> But all silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are sacred to the LORD; they shall go into the treasury of the LORD." <sup>20</sup> So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it. <sup>21</sup> Then they devoted to destruction by the edge of the sword all in the city, both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys.

<sup>22</sup> Joshua said to the two men who had spied out the land, "Go into the prostitute's house, and bring the woman out of it and all who belong to her, as you swore to her." <sup>23</sup> So the young men who had been spies went in and brought Rahab out, along with her father, her mother, her brothers, and all who belonged to her—they brought all her kindred out—and set them outside the camp of Israel. <sup>24</sup> They burned down the city, and everything in it; only the silver and gold, and the vessels of bronze and iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD. <sup>25</sup> But Rahab the prostitute, with her family and all who belonged to her, Joshua spared. Her family<sup>[b]</sup> has lived in Israel ever since. For she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

<sup>26</sup> Joshua then pronounced this oath, saying,

"Cursed before the LORD be anyone who tries  
to build this city—this Jericho!

At the cost of his firstborn he shall lay its foundation,  
and at the cost of his youngest he shall set up its gates!"