

LESSON TWO

LESSON NOTES FOR STD VI

JOSHUA AND THE JUDGES. – Jericho Falls

AIM :**General:**

- 1) To tell the story of the fall of Jericho - the spies and Rahab, the angel's message, the seven day marches, the walls fall, Rehab is spared.
- 2) To show the effect of obedience, trust and 'waiting' for God's action: God works powerfully.

Personal: 1] To help the children to practice obedience and trust in God; to help them to 'wait' for God; to work with full faith: 'all things are possible to him who-believes'. Mark 9 : 23

TEXTS: Joshua 2; 5: 13 - 6 : 27

STARTER: 'Role- Play' (10mins)

(Train 3 children before-hand to do the following skit. Allow them to improvise on words !) [2 children stand with bags, bottles etc. looking down the road and at their watch- only boy has a watch,)

Girl: Where's Daddy ? He said he would pick us up at 4: 45 !

Boy; And now its 4 50 ! He's late I Lets go walking ' I don't think he's coming...

Girl: But Daddy said he would come. I'm sure he won't forget us.

Boy: He must have forgotten I Now its 5 o'clock. I'm going walking. If you want to wait, you can wait I
(Boy goes off...then father comes from opposite direction.)

Girl: Oh Daddy ! I knew you'd come. I'm so glad I waited for you

Father: But where's Benny ? I was planning to take the two of you for an ice-cream.

Girl: He went home walking; .he said you must have forgotten about us.

Father: But how did he think that ? Its exactly 4 : 45 now.

Girl: (Looking at her father's watch) Oh.. yes, it is...then Benny's watch must have been fast ! Poor Fellow, has missed a treat and has to walk all the way home !

- What would you say was the reason that Benny had so much trouble? [His watch was showing a different time; but more important; he didn't trust his father- he thought he had forgotten about him.]

Today we will hear about waiting and trusting and also about time...sometimes God's time is different from our time, but that doesn't mean He has forgotten about us !

INPUT: (20mins)

To get the full picture of the story we are about to read today, we'll take a step backwards, before Joshua and the Israelites crossed the big river [What was its name? **Jordan**]

Read: Joshua Chapter 2

Jericho was the main citadel of the Jordan Valley. It had to be taken first. Joshua sent the spies to try and find as much as possible about the city and their army.

- Why did Rahab help the spies? *[She realised that they were following the true God and she wanted to go over to His side. Although it looked as if they were totally safe in their strong citadel, she believed that the God of the Israelites was very great and could do anything.]*
- Now Joshua knew that this first enemy was very powerful and seemed to be impossible to defeat. What could he do ? God Himself came to his help. *[If God asks you to do something He gives you all the help you need to do it !]*

Read 5:13-15, b: 1-5

- So Joshua and his army did all that they were told. How do you think they felt as they walked round and round without doing any fighting... just going back to the camp each night?

[They must have felt impatient...restless* (like Benny while he was waiting for his Dad !

But still, they had just experienced walking through the Jordan River, and they must have trusted God.]

- Imagine you were soldiers in Jericho, standing on the top of the walls, watching the Israelites. What would you think and say to each other ? [These people are mad ...just walking round and round- OR- THEY have got their God with them ...see the priests and the box they are carrying... they think their God will help them ...]

Lets read what actually happened-

*** Read Joshua 6 : 15 - 25**

Many people believed that another earthquake destroyed the mighty walls of Jericho... God is the Lord of nature... and at the right moment the impossible happened 1 For Joshua, and the Israelites, and for Rahab too, it was a great moment- they had trusted God and obeyed Him and He had not failed them!

ACTIVITY: (10mins)

Testimony- (Teacher shares her own experience of how God worked in His own time- after a period of waiting, hoping, obedience. You could ask someone else- a religious or other person of faith to come in and share at this point OR tell a true life story on the same lines. [Guidepost Magazine have many personal stories])

Group sharing-

- 1) Divide the children into groups of about 4.
- 2) Ask them to think silently for a few minutes of our time when they experienced
 - a) Waiting and then
 - b) God's answer.
- 3) Ask them to share their experience with each other.
- 4) Now ask them to choose 1 experience which they will 'act' for the class.
- 5) Children act their experience in groups.

PRAYER: (10mins)

Pray: Lord, we thank you for all the times you have helped us and answered our prayers. Sing together as a prayer - In His Time [No 315, Sing to the Lord Hymnal]

YOU WILL NEED: Good News Bibles. (full bible) 10 minutes practice before-hand with 3 children # To prepare your own testimony OR ask someone to come in and share # Words of the song '**In His Time**'.