



Preschool Ministry Curriculum for  
*August 7, 2016*

Dear Teacher,

This week we continue our summer curriculum, which is following the theme and preaching from the Sanctuary service. Just to note, we are a few weeks ahead of the Sanctuary service in case there is any confusion. This summer we will look back at most of the characters we studied this past year. The point of each lesson will center on the journey each person was on and how they ultimately looked to Jesus “as the author and perfecter of our faith.”

This Sunday we learn about Rahab and Jericho. God’s people were to enter the Promised Land but not without difficulty. The Promised Land is occupied with many people. If it is to be the Israelites land and home, they will have to fight for it. In today’s story, we not only see God bringing His people into the land in miraculous fashion, but also giving them a very powerful city in the same way. What God commands, God provides. God told His people to go into the Promised Land, and God will provide extraordinary ways for His people to go and have the land. All they must do is trust and obey Him!

We encourage all classrooms to engage with the story from the options provided in class. Teachers, tell the story using any of the provided helps (Vos, Jesus Story Book Bible, Gospel Story Book Bible or printed Handout). If you would like, read the selected Scripture passages aloud in class, discuss or explain what the passages mean, and use the questions below to help guide the discussion. Also, use time in class to teach the Scripture Memory and the Catechism Questions.

**Lesson:** The Journey: Rahab

**Lesson Objective:** To communicate to children that God’s promises require faith especially since God’s promises do not happen immediately.

**Scripture:** Hebrews 11:30-31; Joshua 6

**Story:** Vos Children’s Bible, Pages 107-109; Beginner’s Bible, Pages 137-141; Gospel Storybook Bible, Pages 86-89; Jesus Storybook Bible, 108-115.

**Teaching Points:**

- To believe that God’s promises will come true is called faith.
- God’s promises do not change despite circumstances, people and even our inability to believe them. God keeps his promises even when we do not trust Him or follow His commands.
- God was with His people, the Israelites, and He never left them.
- God’s people had wandered in the wilderness for 40 years instead of entering into the Promised Land. But now the time had come for them to enter the Promised Land.
- God appointed Joshua as the new leader of His people. He would lead God’s people into the Promised Land. The first city they encounter is Jericho, a big, powerful and wicked city.
- Joshua sent two spies into the land to find out more about it. In doing so they encounter a woman, Rahab, who ends up helping the spies.
- Rahab is repaid kindly for her deed, and she and her whole family, in the end, are saved.
- God’s people do as they are instructed and march around the city one time for the first six days. On the seventh day, God’s people march around the city of Jericho seven times and the last time around they shout as loud as they could. God’s people trusted in God to give them victory over Jericho.
- The city walls crumble allowing God’s people to take over the city.

## Preschool Ministry – Morning Overview

For the Sunday Schedule, please see “Sunday Schedule for Preschool” found in Handbook on the teacher’s table.

### First Hour

#### **Cherub Church**

- Kindergarten/5’s – 9:35-10:00 (Classroom’s: 162, 163, 121, 123, 124)
- 3’s/4’s – 10:05-10:30 (Classroom’s: 169, 168, 167, 166, 165, 164)

*Craft:* Trumpet

*Supplies:* Yellow paper, purple ribbon, verse sticker, tape, stapler

*Instructions:* Roll yellow paper to form trumpet, staple large end and tape the other, tape purple ribbon to inside of trumpet to form handle, place verse sticker across trumpet.



#### **Snack**

### Second Hour

*Craft:* Rahab’s Window

*Supplies:* Blue cardstock, tan cardstock with cutout, red yarn, Rahab sticker, tape, glue

*Instructions:* Tape yarn to blue cardstock, thread yarn through window opening in tan cardstock and glue to blue, place sticker above window, color if desired.



**Story:** The Journey: Rahab

1. **PRAY** for your time and any requests the children may have.
2. **ASK** the Transition Question: Boys and girls, I need everyone to form a single file line (you may need to help the kids with this especially 2’s and 3’s). We are going to do some marching. Let’s go marching! (**Teacher Note:** Lead the processional around the room; march around different objects). In today’s story we see a lot of marching taking place; God’s people have finally entered into the Promised Land. But they come to a very big and powerful city. Let’s hear our story today about all of this marching and this very big and powerful city.
3. **TELL** the Story. When applicable or desired, use the Vos Children’s Bible, the Jesus StoryBook Bible, the Beginner’s Bible, or the story below to aid in telling the story.
4. **REVIEW** the questions to help children understand the story.

#### **Singing**

#### **Scripture Memory (Hebrews 12:1-2)**

#### **Catechism Questions (1-10)**

#### **Optional Activities**

### Scripture

#### **Hebrews 11:30-31**

It was by faith that the walls of Jericho fell. They fell after the people had marched around the walls of Jericho for seven days. It was by faith that Rahab, the prostitute, welcomed the spies and was not killed with those who refused to obey God.

## Questions for Review

Questions for Younger Children:

- What is the name of the new leader for God's people?
- What was the name of the city the Israelites came to?
- How many men went into Jericho to spy on it?
- Who helped the men hide?
- How did Rahab help the men escape out of the city?
- How many times did the army march around the city on day 1 through 6?
- How many times on day 7?
- What happened to Jericho's walls?

Questions for Older Children:

- How does God keep His promise to His people in this story?

## Scripture Memory for Summer:

*2 and 3 year olds:*

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus." Hebrews 12:1-2

*4 and 5 year olds:*

"Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith." Hebrews 12:1-2

## Catechism Questions:

- Question 1 – Who made you? *God*
- Question 2 – What else did God make? *God made all things.*
- Question 3 – Why did God make you and all things? *For his own glory.*
- Question 4 – How can you glorify God? *By loving him and doing what he commands.*
- Question 5 – Why are you to glorify God? *Because he made me and takes care of me.*
- Question 6 – Is there more than one true God? *No. There is only one true God.*
- Question 7 – In how many persons does this One God exist? *In three persons.*
- Question 8 – Who are they? *Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*
- Question 9 – What is God? *God is a Spirit and does not have a body like men.*
- Question 10 – Where is God? *God is everywhere.*

## Story

### **The Journey**

Let us continue on our journey together. Remember, we actually won't go to a far land or country. And we won't have to pack up our suitcases or food, get in a car or plane and travel to some place across the world either. Nope, we will stay right here! This journey is special. This journey takes us into the Old Testament and we get to see how people trusted in Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Today in our journey, we learn about God's people and Rahab. As God's people were moving into the Promised Land they come upon the city of Jericho. Jericho is a big, powerful city full of very mean and bad people. God wants His people to take over the city, but they need someone to help them. Rahab was a lady that lived in the city of Jericho and she decided to help God's people. Both Rahab and God's people show extraordinary faith in God and that He will keep His promises. Let's find out more about God's people, Jericho and Rahab.

## **Rahab**

Soon after Moses passed away, God came to Joshua and said, “My servant Moses is gone; now get up and go over the Jordan River to the land I will give to you!” God then told Joshua something very special, “I was with Moses always and I am with you always. I will never leave you. Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid, for I, the Lord your God, am with you wherever you go.”

Joshua then sent spies into the Promised Land to find out who was living in the land and if anyone would try to harm them. The spies soon set out at night to see what they could find. One of first things they saw was a very big city called Jericho. They noticed Jericho had very tall walls and very big metal gates. Jericho was a strong city. Jericho’s enemies would not be able to get in at all. The spies waited around till daytime, when Jericho would open its gates, and snuck in. The spies hid and waited till night to look around for an easy way to get in the city. The spies ran into a woman named Rahab. For a long time Rahab, and many others who lived in Jericho, had been hearing the stories of how powerful and mighty the God of the Israelites was. Rahab did not want to fight God’s people because she knew that God was on their side and they would win any battle. Rahab did not know God for most of her life, but because she had heard about his power and might, she wanted to be on God’s side and not her own.

Rahab snuck the two spies into her house. She took them upstairs to the roof, which was flat and had them lay down. Rahab covered the spies with stalks of flax (similar to hay; flax is used for making rope), which were piled on the roof to dry. Rahab piled it carefully over the spies so they would not be seen.

As careful as the spies and Rahab had been to do all of this secretly, someone saw them. This person quickly told the king of Jericho. The king sent soldiers to Rahab’s house. The soldiers beat on the door. “Rahab!” yelled one of the soldiers, and then yelled again, “Bring out the men who came to you! We know they are in your house! They are enemy spies who come to take us over!” Rahab answered back, “True, I did see two men but I did not know where they came from. It was getting dark and the city gates were about to close, so they slipped out of the city before they closed the gates. If you hurry you can catch them!”

The soldiers ran away hoping to catch the spies. As soon as they had left, the gatekeepers shut the city gates completely so no more spies could get in.

Rahab soon went up to the roof. “I know that the Lord has given you this city and this land. Everyone here is afraid of you. We have heard about your God delivering you from Egypt, we heard about the Red Sea and how your God dried it so you could walk on dry land, and what your God has done to help you live,” said Rahab. She went on, “When we heard all of these stories about your God and what He was doing to protect you, our hearts were filled with fear. No one has any courage left; we are all terrified of what will happen to us. Your God is the God of both Heaven and Earth. There is no one like Him.” Then Rahab asked something of the two spies, “Promise me when you take over Jericho with your army that you will be kind and protect me and my whole family. I was kind to you, I hid you and protected you, and will you promise to care for me and my family?” The two spies, “You have been kind to us indeed, so we promise as long as you tell no one about hiding us here.”

## **The Red Rope**

The city of Jericho was a huge city. Its city walls were so thick that houses were built on top of it, and Rahab just so happened to live in one of those houses. A few of her windows looked out into the country; she could see a long ways off.

Rahab said to the spies, “The city gates are shut. You will not be able to get out of here. But I think I have a plan?” So Rahab told the spies that she would let them down through one of her windows with a red rope. The spies would then be able to escape into the mountains and make it back to Joshua and the Israelites. Rahab did warn them about one thing, “You both should hide in the mountain for a few days. Those men will stop at nothing to try and find you. They

should return back to Jericho in three days. On the third day you will be able to get up and travel safely back to your people.”

Before the two spies left, one of them told Rahab to do something very important. “When we come back, we will need to know which house you live in. Tie this same red rope outside your window so we can see it. Gather all of your family in this house so they will all be safe. When we come to conquer this city, all those in your house will be safe.”

The two spies quickly left down the red rope and ran into the mountains. The spies hid in the mountains for three days, and then on the third day they got up and made their way to Joshua. Joshua was happy to see the two men, and they quickly told Joshua, “Truly the Lord has delivered all the land to us. Everyone is afraid of us because of all that God has done.”

### **Crossing the River**

God’s people were ready to go and conquer the land. They had gathered their supplies and weapons to go. Joshua commanded everyone to go. The priests led the long march into the Promised Land; they carried the Ark of the Covenant (remember: this signified God’s presence with His people) with them. After the priests everyone filed in line and marched behind them. God’s people were at the Jordan River ready to cross, but the river was really deep and flowing very fast. But a miracle happened! Just as the priests stepped onto the water, the river stopped flowing. All the water was suddenly gone and the hot sun dried up the riverbed so God’s people could walk on dry land...again!

The priests stood on the riverbed as the Israelites passed by them, and as long as the priests stood in the riverbed there was no water to be seen. Once the Israelites crossed, they camped and rested for a few days. But something amazing happened, not soon after they had crossed over the Jordan River into the Promised Land, the manna, which they had eaten for forty years, stopped coming. God’s people no longer needed it! They had plenty of food to eat in the land. The people living in the land, they were called Canaanites, became very afraid. They too knew what God could do because they heard what He had done in Egypt. The Canaanites did not worship God, they worshiped a false god called Moloch. The Canaanites were very bad people living in the land God promised Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and all of God’s people.

### **Jericho**

The Israelites soon set out for Jericho. They knew they must conquer the city otherwise they could not have the land God promised them. Once the guards saw the Israelites coming they closed the gates to the city and kept them locked. No one could get in or out of Jericho. Remember the walls were very, very high and very, very thick. Joshua did not know how God’s people were going to get in the city, but he knew God had a plan.

God told Joshua to gather all the men to fight, but “leave the women and children at camp. I do not want to see them get hurt.” God told Joshua to have the men form into groups and to begin marching. In the middle of the army were seven priests with seven trumpets. Following these priests were four more priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant. Then after the priests were more men.

They formed one long line of soldiers and priests; they marched around the city of Jericho. The priests blew their trumpets as they went, but the soldiers were perfectly quiet. They did not open their mouths to speak. It took a long time to march all around the big city. When they had done it once, the soldiers went home to their tents for the day. The next day the same thing happened again. All the men of Israel formed their long line and marched around Jericho. After they had marched around Jericho, the Israelites went home without attacking the city. God’s people did this same thing for six days.

At first everyone in Jericho was very afraid, but as God’s people kept doing this very weird thing the people in Jericho became less afraid. The people in the city of Jericho thought, “What are they going to do to us? They keep marching around and that is not going to hurt us!”

### **The Seventh Day**

But on the seventh day, something different took place. The long line of soldiers and priests started to march towards the city, and as the Israelite army would have been finished they kept marching around the city. God's people marched around the city of Jericho seven times. Not once like before, but seven times! Again, not one soldier said a word and only the priests were blowing their trumpets. But on the final march around the city – the seventh march – Joshua cried out to the whole army, "Shout! God has given us the city!" With that the priests blew their trumpets and all the men shouted as loud as they could. And then something started to happen. The walls of the city started to shake, pieces of brick and rock started to come loose and crumble to the ground. Bigger pieces started falling, and then bigger pieces, and then bigger pieces of the wall were coming down! The army continued to shout and the priests blew their trumpets, and finally the whole wall of the city was completely crumbled and gone. There was nothing to protect Jericho from God's people. The soldiers ran in and took over the city. The only people saved that day were whom do you think? That's right; remember Rahab and the red rope. Rahab and her whole family were saved that day. God told His people to take nothing from Jericho that day. Jericho was an evil place and God did not want his people to have any thing from that bad place.

Rahab and her family lived with God's people after that day. God's people saw another way in which He kept His promises. God's people saw the way in which God was with Joshua as He had been with Moses. News of Jericho's defeat quickly spread throughout the land, many other people became afraid of Joshua and the God of the Israelites. Rahab and God's people trusted that God would keep His promises. Rahab and the Israelites show us what it means to trust in God.