

Entrance into Canaan

Joshua
Lesson 1

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of the Israelites entering the promised land.
- The children will state that God always keeps his promises.
- The children will make a list of ways that God has been faithful to them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 1-4

Scripture Memory Verse

"Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Remember

Welcome and Singing

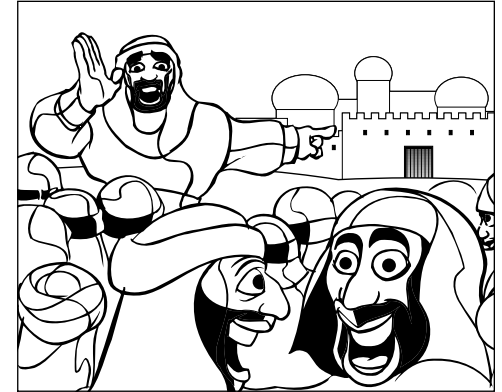
Centers:

Bible Story: Entrance into Canaan

Craft: A Rope and a Window

Scripture Memory: Memory March

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.



Entrance into Canaan

Remember

The children will preview today's lesson as they make a reminder of how God kept his promise to his people.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 Styrofoam cup
- 1 craft stick
- glue stick
- crayons

For the teacher:

- scissors
- knife
- invisible tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page A, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

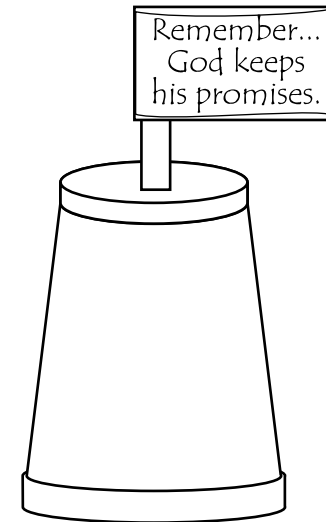
1. For each child, cut out the banner on the copies of Reproducible Page A.
2. Using your knife, make a small slit in the bottom of each cup where the craft stick will be inserted.
3. Make a sample to show the children.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Tell them that today they will learn how Joshua led God's people into the promised land. Show the children your sample. Explain that the Israelites took twelve stones—one for each big family group or tribe—to remind them that God keeps his promises to everyone.
2. Distribute the banners you prepared, craft sticks, Styrofoam cups, glue sticks and crayons. Have them write their names on the craft stick or cup and color their banners.
3. Circulate among the children to help them fold their banners on the dashed line. Help them glue these banners to the craft sticks and then place them in the Styrofoam cup—bottom end up, as shown. If necessary, reinforce the banners with tape.

Teacher Tips

- Straws may be used instead of craft sticks.



B

Entrance into Canaan

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Lesson 1

S

Entrance into Canaan

In today's Bible lesson, the children will learn how Joshua led God's people into Canaan.

Materials

For the teacher:

- 1 red cord or heavy ribbon
- colored markers
- scissors
- glue sticks
- 4 cardboard boxes with removable tops (i.e., copier paper box)

Reproducible Pages:

- Page B, 1 copy for the teacher
- Page C, 1 copy for the teacher

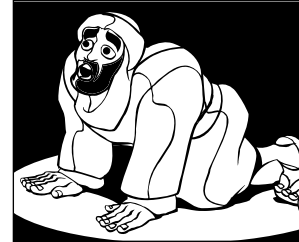
Preparation

1. Cut out and color the pictures from your copies of Reproducible Pages B and C.
2. Glue each picture inside one of the box tops.
3. Set up the box tops in four different areas or stations about five feet apart. Use the boxes as a stand or base for the pictures.
4. Practice telling the story with a lot of enthusiasm, using the props and questions.

Introducing the Bible Story

Open your Bible to Joshua. *Joshua is a book in the Old Testament. Moses and God's people were in the desert for many years. God chose Joshua to lead the people into the promised land after Moses died. In our story today, you are going to see how God used Joshua to do amazing things!* Tell them that they will go to four different stations to learn what happened to God's people as they entered the promised land.

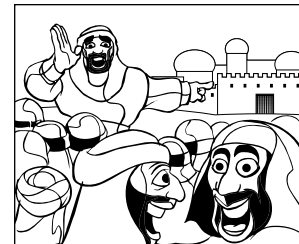
Presenting the Bible Story



Have the children stand up and form a line behind you. Lead them to Station #1. Show them the picture as you read Joshua 1:1-5. Then explain to the children: *After Moses died, God wanted Joshua to lead the people to the promised land. God told Joshua to be strong and courageous because he was going to lead the people*

to inherit the land God promised to give them. God told them to obey the Bible, "Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful." (Joshua 1:8) God promised to take care of them.

- *Who did God choose to lead his people? Jeremiah? Julia? Joshua? (Joshua)*
- *What did God promise to give the people? sand? a band? land? (land)*
- *What did God tell him to do with the Book of the Law? play? put away? obey? (obey)*

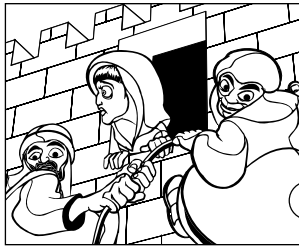


Have the children stand up and march around to Station #2. Show them the picture. *Joshua obeyed God. He told the people to get ready to cross the Jordan River and then go into the promised land. The people answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go." (Joshua 1:16)*

- *Yes or No: Joshua obeyed God. (Yes)*
- *Yes or No: Joshua told the people to get ready to go to sleep. (No. He told them to get ready to cross the Jordan River.)*
- *Yes or No: The people told Joshua they would do whatever he told them. (Yes)*



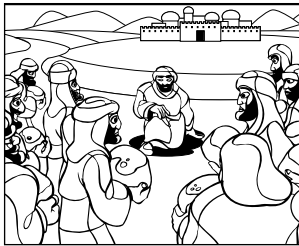
Entrance into Canaan



March with the children to station #3. Show them the picture and tell the story: *Meanwhile, Joshua secretly sent two spies to check out the land. So they went to the house of a woman named Rahab who lived in Jericho. (Have the children say "Rahab" and "Jericho.") The king of Jericho found out about the spies and wanted to*

catch them. He sent messengers to Rahab to capture the spies. But Rahab knew the spies were from God and she hid them on her roof. She told the king's messengers that the spies had come to her house but they were already gone. So the king's men left to go look for them. Rahab told the spies that the whole country was afraid because they had heard of the miracles that God had done for them like parting the Red Sea. She knew God was with them. She asked them to promise to protect her and her family since she had rescued them. The men told her to tie a red (scarlet) rope in her window and have her whole family stay in the house and they would be safe. The spies returned to Joshua and told him everything that happened to them.

- Take out the red cord and pass it around to the children. Explain that this was the sign to Joshua to protect and rescue Rahab and her family because she protected and rescued the spies.



March with the children to station #4. Holding up the picture, tell the story: *Early in the morning, Joshua and all the Israelites set out for the Jordan River. The people reached the Jordan River. The priests were carrying the ark of the covenant of the Lord. As soon as their feet touched the water's edge, the water*

stopped flowing. A long way off, the water was piled up so that the people could cross over on dry ground. Then God told Joshua to choose twelve men—one from each tribe or large family group—to take up twelve stones from the middle of the Jordan River where the priests holding the ark of the Lord were standing. He told them to carry the stones over to the other side. Later that night, Joshua built a pillar with the stones to remind all the people that God kept his promise. Joshua said to the Israelites, "In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the

LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever." (Joshua 4:6-7)

- *What happened when the priests' feet touched the edge of the Jordan River? Hint: Remember the Red Sea. (The water stopped flowing so that the people could cross over on dry ground.)*
- *How many men did Joshua choose to take up the stones? (twelve—one from each tribe or family group)*
- *What did God want the people and their children to remember each time they saw these stones? (That God dried up the river to let them cross over on dry ground; God keeps his promises!)*

Share and Tell

God wants us to remember that he keeps his promises just as he did for the Israelites. Who can you tell this week about how God always keeps his promises? Close with a prayer thanking God for always keeping his promises and asking his help to share that with others.

Activity Stretcher

Copy and enlarge the pictures from your copies of Reproducible Pages B and C onto heavy paper and laminate. Cut each picture into four pieces to make puzzles for the children to put together as a review.

Teacher Tips

- If you do not have space for four large stations, choose four children to hold the boxes as you tell the story.
- Write out the questions on index cards and place at each station ahead of time for easier reference.

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Entrance into Canaan

A Rope and a Window

The children will make a craft to remind them of one special promise made to Rahab.

Materials

For each child:

- 1 piece of brown construction paper, 9" x 12"
- 1 piece of red yarn, 8"
- glue stick
- 1 piece of chalk

For the teacher:

- scissors
- invisible tape

Reproducible Pages:

- Page D, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut out the window and picture of Rahab from the copies of Reproducible Page D.
2. To open the window, fold in half and cut along the lines provided. Fold the windows back, as shown in Figure A.
3. Make a sample to show the children.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In your lesson today, you are learning how God kept his promise to Israel to bring them into the promised land. God chose Joshua to lead the people after Moses died. Joshua told the people to get ready. Then he sent two spies into Jericho to bring back a report. The king of Jericho heard about the spies and sent messengers to capture them, but a woman named Rahab protected them by hiding them on her roof. After the messengers were gone, Rahab sent the spies out through a window. She asked the spies to promise to protect her and her family when they returned. The spies told her to have all her family and household stay inside the house and to hang a red cord from the window. They promised that when the Lord gave them the city, she and her household would be safe because she saved their lives. The spies returned to tell Joshua all that happened.*

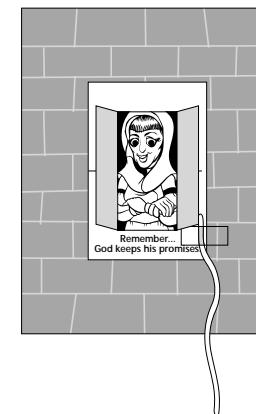
2. Show the children the craft that you made. *Rahab's house was a part of the city wall. She lowered the spies through the window and then tied a red cord as a signal to the spies to protect her. Later when the Lord gave them the city, Rahab and her family were saved—just as she was promised.*
3. Distribute the windows and pictures of Rahab you prepared, construction paper and glue sticks to the children.
4. Have them color and glue the picture of Rahab on the construction paper. Have them place the window over the picture and glue it in place, as shown in Figure B.
5. Distribute the chalk and have the children draw lines on the paper to make brick walls. Make sure they can see your craft as a sample.
6. As the children are working, distribute the yarn and help the children tape it to the inside of the windows, as shown in Figure C.
7. Have the children write their names on their crafts.

Conclusion

Remind the children that God kept his promise to keep his people safe. Ask them how God keeps us safe today. Close with a prayer thanking God for how he always keeps his promises even today.

Teacher Tips

- To save time, have the children draw the chalk lines on their construction paper after they complete the Preclass Activity.



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Entrance into Canaan

Joshua
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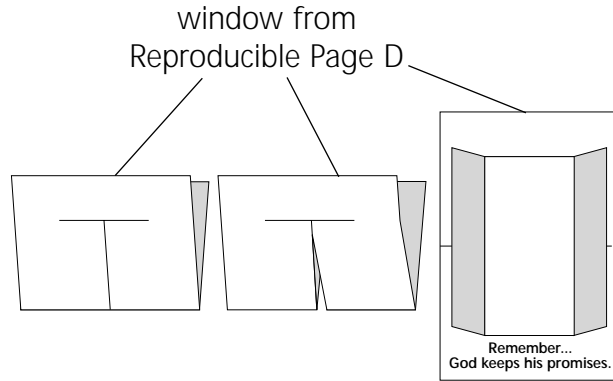


Figure A

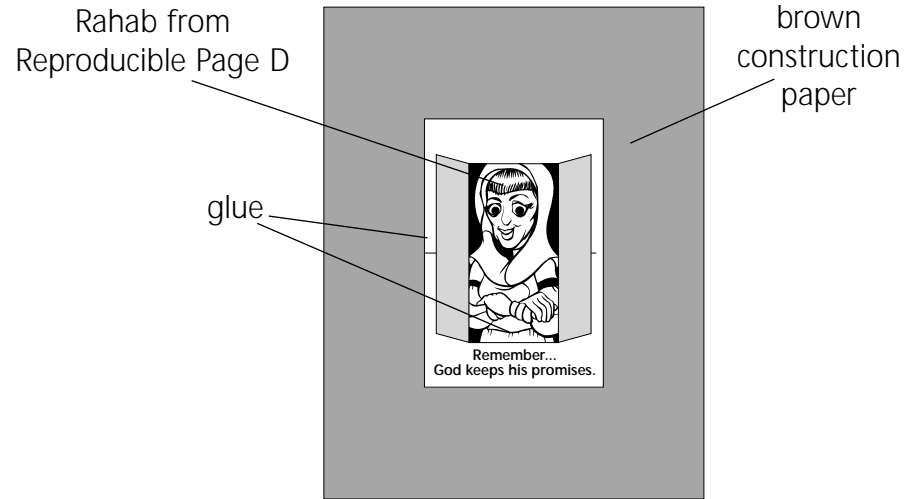


Figure B

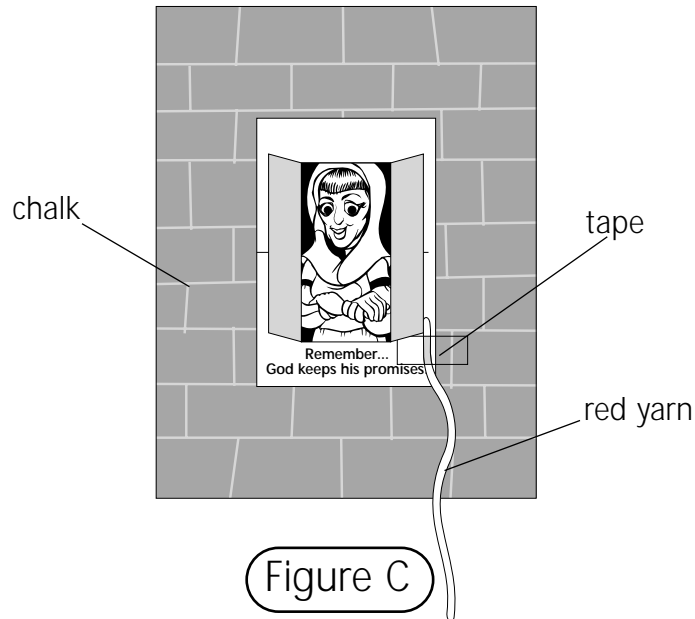


Figure C



SCRIPTURE MEMORY

Entrance into Canaan

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Memory March

The children will learn the Scripture Memory Verse as they march.

Scripture Memory Verse

"Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Materials

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Preparation

Print the memory scripture on the large writing surface as it appears on the back of this Lesson Card.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *This week you are learning about Joshua, the man chosen by God to lead God's people into Canaan. God promised Moses and the people of Israel that he would deliver them out of slavery and bring them into a good land. After many years, God was fulfilling his promise to his people. God always keeps his promises! Today, your Scripture Memory Verse is a reminder that God was with Joshua and he will be with us—wherever we go!*
2. Show the children the Scripture Memory Verse on the back of this Lesson Card. Say it to them three times, pointing to the words as you say it. Have them follow along silently.
3. Ask the children to say the verse with you three more times, each time pointing to the words.

4. Ask each child to say the verse together with you to the rest of the group, letting him point to the words.
5. Tell the children to stand up and march in place. Lead them in the Scripture Memory Verse. Let each child take a turn facing the rest of the children and leading them in the march as they say the verse.
6. If your space permits, have the children march in a circle or around the class area saying the verse as they march.

Conclusion

Ask the children how it makes them feel to know that God promises to be with us wherever we go. Encourage them to say this verse the next time they are feeling afraid or alone. Close with a prayer for the children to trust God and see that he is always there.

Teacher Tips

- Think of creative marching styles or techniques.
- Bring in a drum or tambourine to keep the rhythm and make the activity more interesting.



Entrance into Canaan

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“Do not be discouraged,
for the LORD your God
will be with you
wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9



Entrance into Canaan

Joshua
Lesson 1

Lesson at
a Glance supplement

Lesson Objectives

- The children will tell the story of the Israelites entering the promised land.
- The children will state that God always keeps his promises.
- The children will make a list of ways that God has been faithful to them.

Lesson Text

Joshua 1-4

Scripture Memory Verse

"Do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:9

Lesson Plan

Greeting and Registration

Preclass Activity: Joshua Jumble

Welcome and Singing

Centers:

Life Application: Old Faithful

Game: Faithful Bingo

Bible Skills: A Promise for You

NOTE: Allow time for a snack.

1st and 2nd Grades



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Joshua Jumble

The children will review this week's lesson as they match pictures to key events from the story.

Materials

For each child:

- pencil
- crayons or markers

Reproducible Pages:

- Page E, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

Complete the activity on your copy of Reproducible Page E.

Instructions

1. Greet the children as they arrive. Remind them they are learning about Joshua and the promised land this week. Show them your copy of Reproducible Page E. Explain that they will draw a line from the picture to the words that tell what happened.
2. Have the children work with a partner. Make sure that the children who did not hear the Bible Story work with those who did. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page E, pencils and crayons.
3. Circulate among the children to offer help. As the children finish, encourage them to write the story of Joshua in the correct order on the lines provided for them at the bottom of their pages.

4. Have the children practice telling the Bible Story to each other.

Teacher Tips

- Read Joshua 1-4 to be familiar with the events of this week's lesson.

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N**Old Faithful**

The children will review this week's lesson as they make a list of ways God has been faithful to them.

Materials

For each child:

- crayons or markers
- 3 index cards, 3" x 5"
- stickers of nature, people, animals, sports, family

For the teacher:

- large writing surface

Preparation

On the large writing surface, write the words: Family; Friends; Fun.

Reviewing the Bible Story

In this week's Bible Story, you learned how God was faithful to Joshua and the Israelites by helping lead them into the promised land. God showed his faithfulness to Joshua by all that he did—parting the Red Sea, stopping the Jordan River from flowing, and more. God encouraged Joshua by telling him he would be with him wherever he went. When Joshua told the people of Israel, they said they would do whatever Joshua told them to do.

Joshua secretly sent two spies to Jericho and God used Rahab to hide them from the king of Jericho. Because Rahab protected the spies, she was promised that she and her family would be protected.

God also stopped the Jordan River from flowing so Israel could cross on dry land. One man from each tribe of Israel picked a stone from the dry riverbed to remind them of God's faithfulness. God showed his faithfulness to Joshua and he shows his faithfulness to us today.

Life Application

Point to the large writing surface. Tell the children that these are three very important ways that God is faithful to us today. Say the words and have the children say them with you.

God gives us families to take care of us and keep us safe, just as he took care of his people in Joshua's day. God gives us friends to cheer us up when we are sad, play with us and keep us company

when we feel alone. Moses and Joshua were friends, and Moses and God were friends. The Bible is full of examples of friends that God has given his children. God gives us ways to have fun with our family and friends. God also gives us our pets, the outdoors, games, music and so much more! If we love God most of all, God promises that we will be happy, and he always keeps his promises.

Distribute the index cards and crayons. Refer the children to the large writing surface and have them write the words family, friends and fun—one on each of their cards. Show the children the stickers. Have them place stickers on their cards that remind them of the words on the cards. If there are no stickers, have the children draw a picture of the word.

When they are finished, ask each child to use their cards to say three things that God has done to show his faithfulness to them. For example: "God has given me my new baby sister, my best friend Kelly and my favorite sport, soccer." Begin by giving them an example from your life.

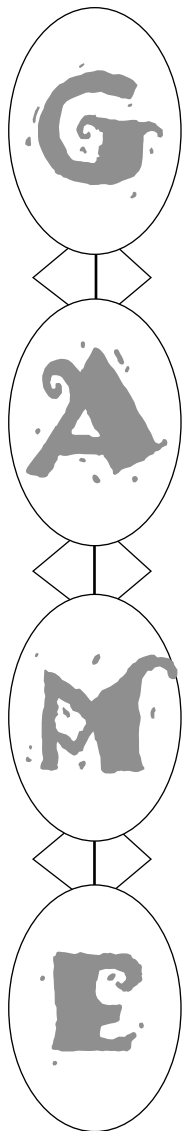
Conclusion

Suggest additional ways that God shows his faithfulness such as answering prayers, providing them with a home, etc. Encourage the children to show their cards to their friends and family, and to tell them how God has shown his faithfulness to them. Close with a prayer thanking God for his faithfulness.

Teacher Tips

- If stickers are not available, cut out magazine pictures and bring glue sticks for the children.





Faithful Bingo

The children will review this week's lesson as they spell key words about God's faithfulness.

Materials

For each child:

- 20 dried beans or other small item

For the teacher:

- 1 small box
- 13 index cards, 3" x 5"
- marker
- scissors

Reproducible Pages:

- Page F, 1 copy for each child

Preparation

1. Cut each index card in half. On these cards, neatly print the letters—one per card—exactly as shown on the back of this Lesson Card. Place all the cards in the box.
2. Practice playing this game at home.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *This week you are learning about Joshua, the man God chose to lead his people into the promised land. God spoke to Joshua and told him what to do. God even protected the spies by leading them to the home of Rahab. Then God stopped the Jordan River so that his people could cross over on dry ground—just as he had done for them in the Red Sea! God proved once again that he is faithful and always keeps his promises.*
2. Show the children your copy of Reproducible Page F. Say and point to each word on the Game Cards. Tell the children that this game is played like Bingo. The goal is to be the first to cover an entire word.
3. Have each child find a partner. Distribute the copies of Reproducible Page F and beans to each team of two children.

4. Shuffle the letter cards in the box and take one out. Call out the letter and show it to the children. Tell them to place one bean on one matching letter on Game Card #1. For example: if you call the letter "A" the children may place a bean on one "A" on that Game Card. Continue in this way until a team has covered one whole word. When a child has a word, he should say, "God is faithful!" Ask the children to tell one thing that they remember about their word from this week's lesson.
5. Play a round for each Game Card. If time permits, play again.

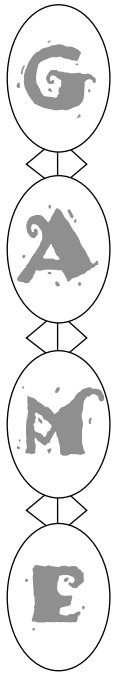
Conclusion

Using the words on the game cards, ask the children what their favorite part was of this week's Bible Story. Close with a prayer thanking God for always keeping his promises.

Teacher Tips

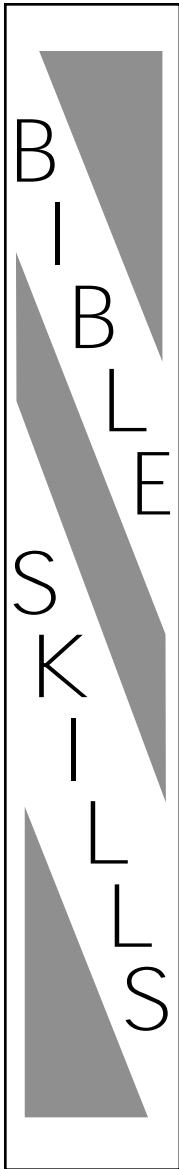
- Dried beans may be substituted with any object small enough to fit on the letters in this game.

Entrance into Canaan



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H	I	J	J	L	N	N
O	O	O	P	R	R	S
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A Promise for You

The children will practice looking up scriptures that describe different promises of God.

Materials

For each child:

- index card, 3" x 5"
- pencil

For the teacher:

- Old Testament books of the Bible Train (if available)
- New Testament Books of the Bible Fishing Fleet (if available)
- large writing surface

Preparation

Display the Bible Train and Fishing Fleet in a place where the children can see them. If these are not available, write the books of the Bible on the large writing surface.

Instructions

1. Introduce today's activity: *In this week's lesson, you learned about Joshua, the man that God chose to lead God's people into the promised land. You learned about the amazing ways that God protected the spies and even stopped the Jordan so that the people could cross on dry ground. God is always faithful to his promises and he always keeps his promises. Today, you are going to practice finding promises in the Bible. The Bible is full of God's promises and it is good to know how to find them.*
2. Distribute the index cards and pencils. Tell the children to write their names on their cards. Tell them that they will write different Bible verses on their cards so they can find these promises when they go home.
3. Help each child to find a partner and make sure they have a Bible. Encourage new visitors to work with an adult assistant or child with confident Bible Skills.

4. Tell the children to find the Old Testament book of Genesis. After all the children have found it, tell them to find chapter 1. Tell them to find chapter 2, chapter 3, up to chapter 12. When all the children have found chapter 12, have them find verse 2. Read the verse as the children follow along. Point to the word "nation" on the back of this card and tell them to put their fingers on the word "nation" in verse 2. *In this verse God promises Abraham that he will be the father of a great nation. Now move down to verse 7, and put your finger on the word "land."* Point to the word "land" on the back of this card. *In this verse God promises Abraham that he will give his people this great land.* On the large writing surface, write Genesis 12:2,7 and have the children copy it onto their index cards.
5. *Now we will turn to the book of Joshua and see where God's people crossed the Jordan River and actually entered the land God had promised. Let's say the books of the Bible until we get to Joshua. Refer to the Bible Train. Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua. Everyone turn to the book of Joshua. Now find chapter 3. Circulate among the children. Now find verse 17 and put your finger on the word "Jordan."* Point to "Jordan" on the back of this Lesson Card. *In this verse we see that the whole nation of Israel crossed into the land God had promised.* On the large writing surface, write Joshua 3:17 and have the children copy it onto their index cards.
6. If time permits, do this same activity for the following promises: Psalms 34:19, John 15:7, Romans 8:28. If time runs out, encourage the children to look up these verses at home.

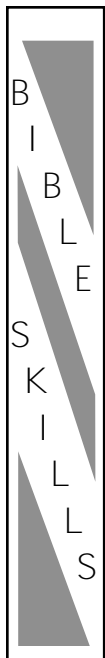
Conclusion

Encourage the children that all these promises are for them and their families. Close with a prayer thanking God for his promises.

Teacher Tips

- If you have non-readers in your group, make sure to pair them with confident readers.





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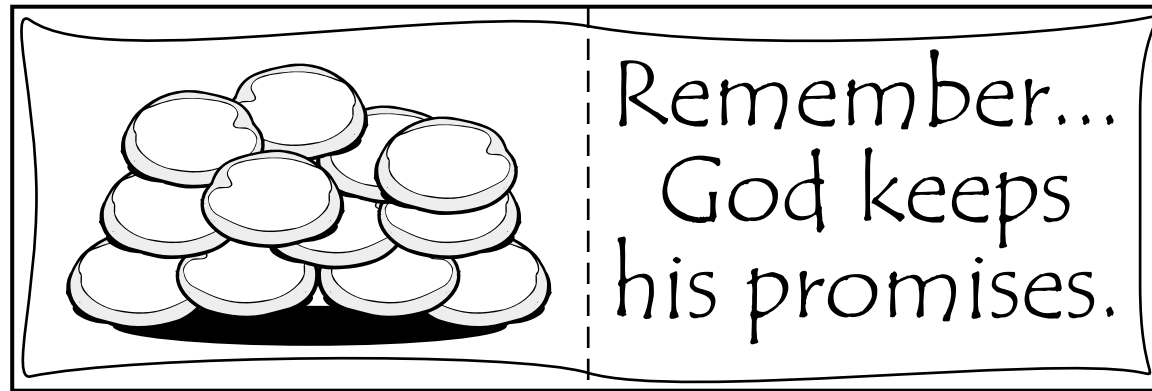
PAGE

A

Core/Preclass

1 copy for each child

Joshua
Lesson 1



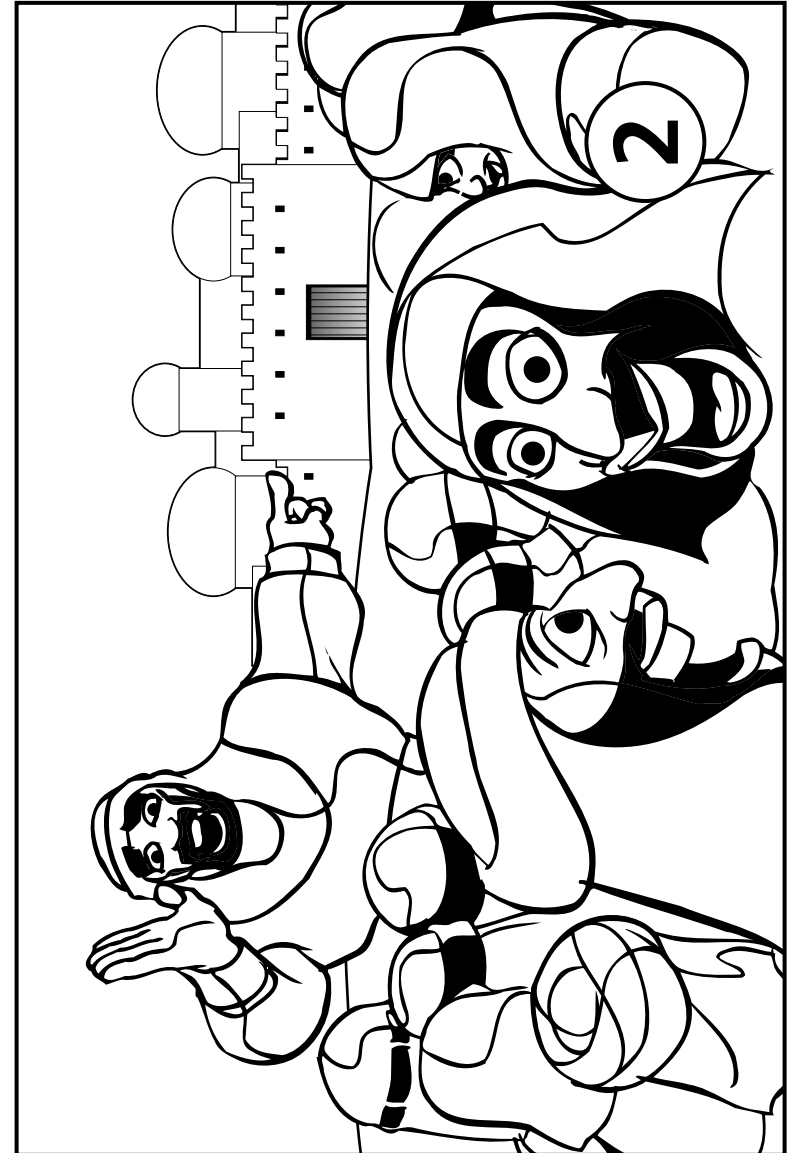
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Core/Bible Story

1 copy for the teacher (Optional - enlarge onto heavy paper)

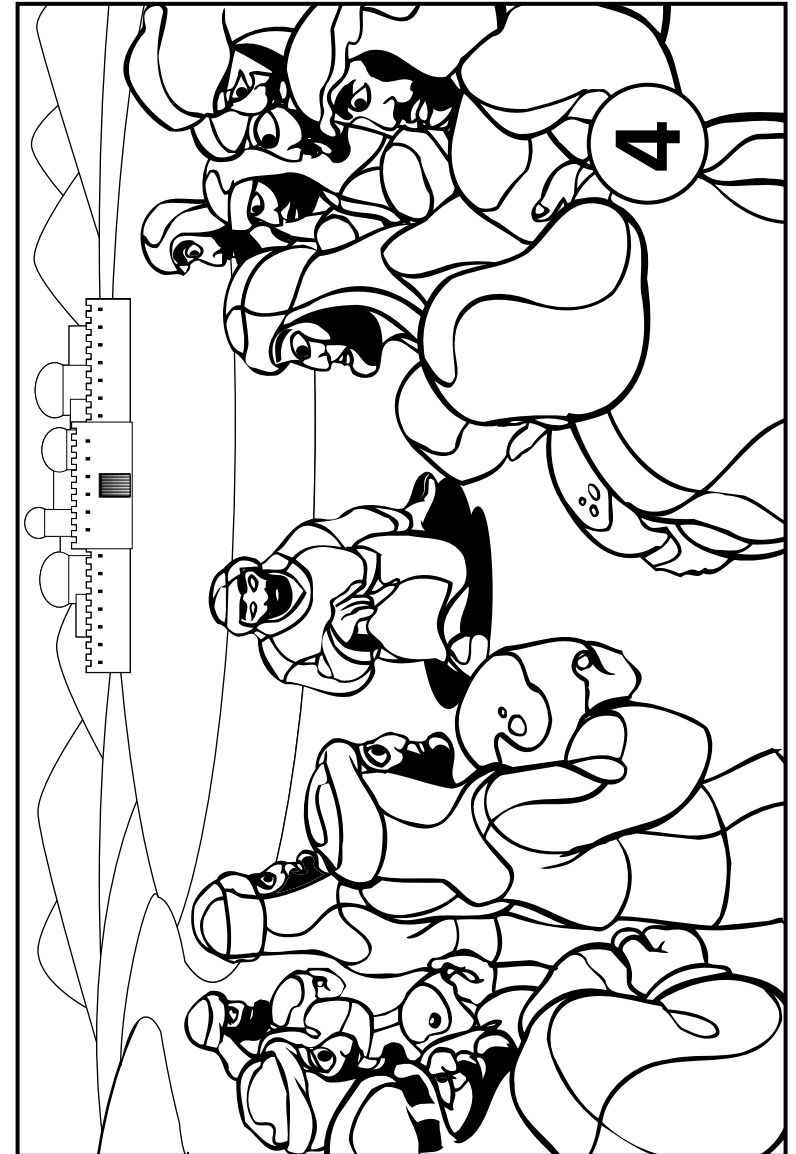
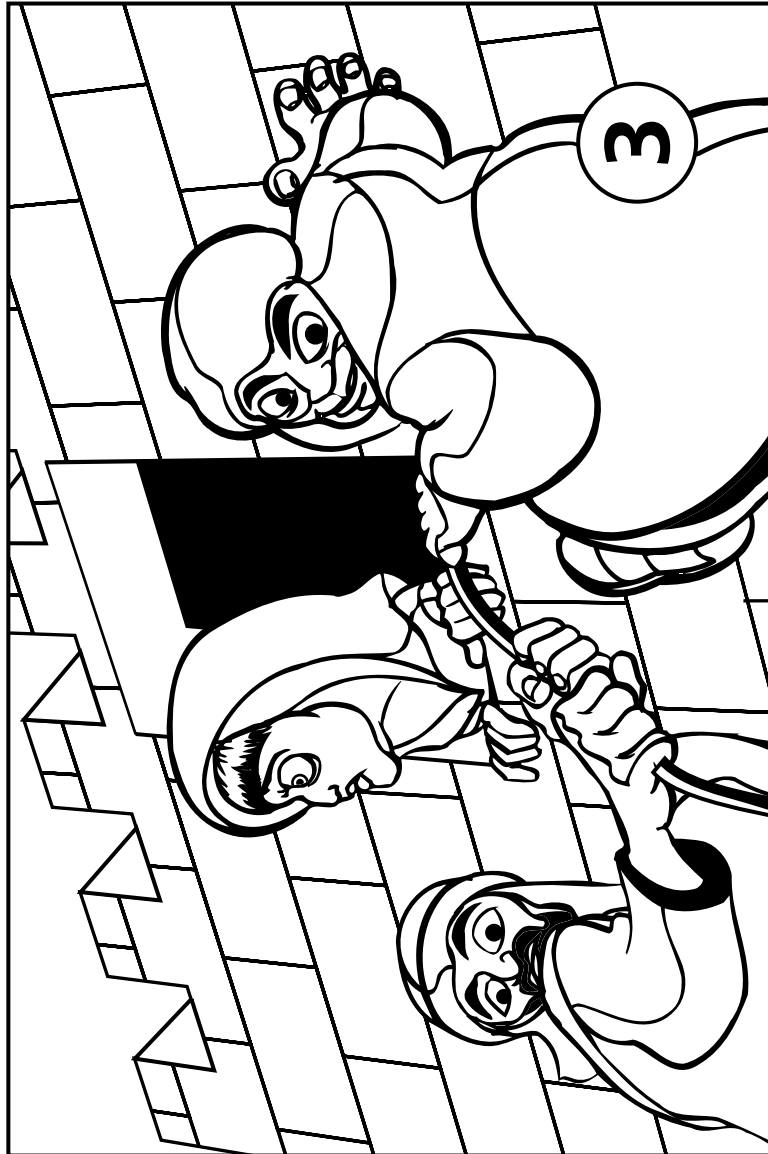
Joshua
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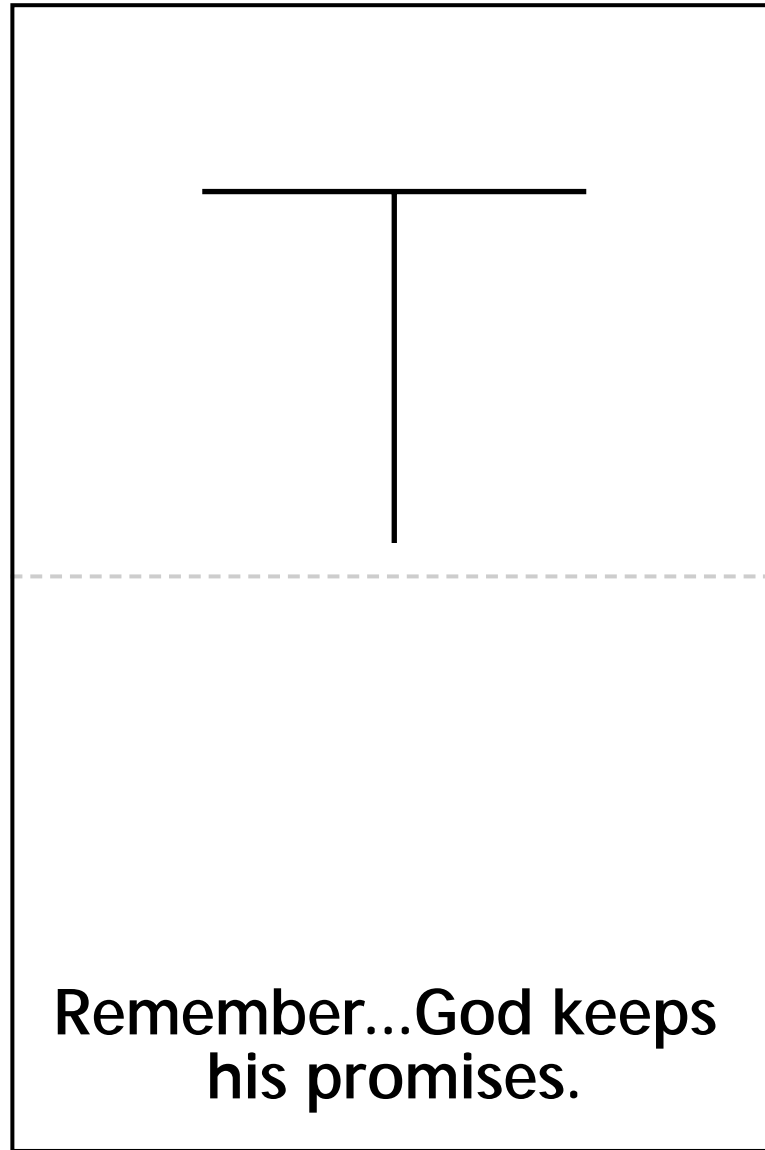
1 copy for the teacher (Optional - enlarge onto heavy paper)

Joshua
Lesson 1



Core/Craft
1 copy for each child

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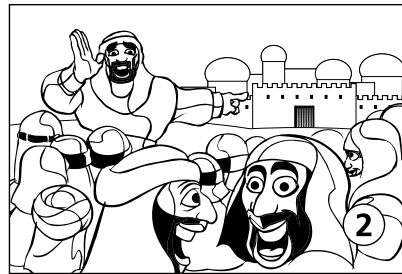
Name _____

On Your Mark

Draw a line matching each picture to its description.



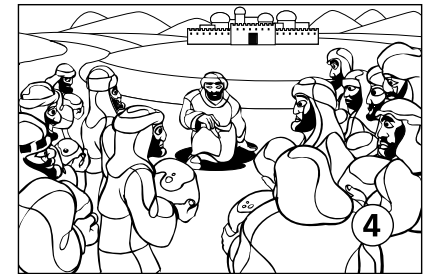
Rahab helps the spies.



Joshua tells the people to get ready.



The people enter the new land!



God tells Joshua to lead the people.

Going to a New Land

Write the story of Joshua:

R
E
P
R
O
D
U
C
I
B
L
E
P
A
G
E



Supplement/Game

1 copy for each child

Name _____

R	A	H	A	B	*
S	P	I	E	S	*
I	S	R	A	E	L
J	O	S	H	U	A

Game Card 1

I	S	R	A	E	L
S	T	O	N	E	S
S	P	I	E	S	*
J	O	R	D	A	N

Game Card 2

J	O	S	H	U	A
J	O	R	D	A	N
S	T	O	N	E	S
R	A	H	A	B	*

Game Card 3

