

MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With Your Kids



Unit 8 Lesson 1: Joshua 1-4 "Crossing the Jordan"

IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Answers will vary based on kid's experience, but it should be along the lines of the story point: "God led His people through the Jordan River on dry ground."

Ask kids what they think it means to glorify God.

Guide kids to discuss what they know to be true about God. Point out that fear can keep us from following God, but God is faithful. He will never leave us. God is good, and He is in control. Talk about our Big Picture Answer: We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him, even in scary or difficult circumstances.

How did God help the people cross the Jordan? Why do you think God allows us to go through difficult or scary circumstances?

God stopped the flow of the water so that it piled up on oneside, (Josh. 3:16) Help kids see that when we face hard times we learn to trust Him. Remind the kids that asking for help is wise. We never have to face scary times alone.

HANGING OUT:

Discuss what your kids should do when they need to cross a street. Talk about looking both ways, waiting for a traffic light to change, or other techniques to cross safely.

SAY • When crossing a street, we can do certain things to ensure we are safe. Those ideas won't help much if you need to cross a river! Today we learned about a time God's people needed to cross a river.

Why do you think God helped His people cross the Jordan?

Guide kids to discuss the fact that most of the people who had seen God's amazing miracles in Egypt and at the Red Sea had died. God helped them cross the Jordan River in an amazing way to demonstrate His power to them and strengthen their faith in Him.

AT DINNER:

God told Joshua to be strong and courageous and to obey His commands. What commands do Christians need strength and courage to obey?

Discuss the different commands Jesus talks about, such as loving God, loving people, sharing the gospel, and so forth. Talk about real life applications: what do they need God's help to do in their lives? For example: Do chores without complaining or grumbling; love their brother or sister even when they're being annoying etc.

What did Joshua do to remember the amazing thing God had done for His people?

He instructed men from the twelve tribes to take 12 stones from the middle of the riverbed and set them up as a memorial. (Josh. 4:3-7) God held back the Jordan River for His people to cross. He is good and provides for His people. We see that very clearly in the way He sent Jesus for us.

Why do you think God wanted the people to have the stones to remember what He did for them?

Guide kids to discuss the fact that God proves His faithfulness again and again, but people tend to forget and walk into sin. God wanted them to have a reminder that He is good and trustworthy.

BEFORE BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this unit's key passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

SAY • Our key passage teaches that God promised to be with His people. Those who trust Jesus for salvation are part of God's family, and Jesus made the same promise to be with us forever. We can be bold and have courage because we have the almighty God with us all the time.

PARENT TIME/WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

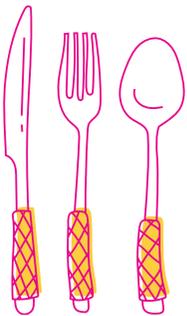
Story Point: "God led His people through the Jordan River on dry ground."

Key Passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

Gospel Gems from the Story: • God promised to be with Joshua. • God made the Jordan River stop. • The people set up stones to remember what God had done

Big Picture Question: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Christ Connection: God was with Joshua and the Israelites as they went into the promised land. He showed His power to them so they would trust in Him. When Jesus came to earth, He showed His power so people would trust in Him and be saved from sin.



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Unit 8 Lesson 2: Joshua 2; 6 "The Battle of Jericho"

IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Answers will vary based on kid's experience, but it should be along the lines of the story point: "The Battle of Jericho: "God made the walls of Jericho fall down."

Ask kids to think of one way they can glorify God this week.

Point kids back to the big picture question we introduced last week: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Ask kids what their reaction would be if God gave them instructions like he did Joshua.

Talk about funny real life scenarios: What if coach said "Hey, to win this game, we are going to march around the field and clap our hands." What if your teacher said "To pass this test, I want you to stomp your feet and do a dance around your desk"? When God speaks, it doesn't matter how strange His instructions may seem. They are good and right, and we should lovingly obey them. That sounds like our big picture question and answer, doesn't it? How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him. We see this in our story. When the walls around Jericho fell, no one could say, "Oh, that happened because the Israelites are strong." No way! It happened because God is powerful. His plans cannot be



HANGING OUT:

Discuss a time your kids knocked something over. Was it something like a block tower or sandcastle that can be fun to knock over? Was it a fragile vase that broke when it hit the ground?

SAY • With some toys or games, knocking them down is half the fun. In other cases, you want what you build to never fall down, like a wall used to protect a city. Today we heard about a time a city wall fell down, but all the people did was shout!

What was God's plan to defeat Jericho?

The Israelites would march around the city for seven days playing trumpets. They would finally shout, and then the walls would fall; (OPTIONAL: Read Josh. 6:3-5)

Why do you think God's strategy was so different from human battle strategies?

Guide kids to discuss the idea that when God does things in a way that no human could do without Him, it proves His power and might. God does things we cannot to remind us that we need Him.

AT DINNER:

Why did Rahab help the Israelite spies?

(She had faith that God is the one true God and He would give Israel victory, (OPTIONAL: Read Josh. 2:10-12)

Did God's plan work? (Yes, His people conquered Jericho and Rahab's family was spared; Josh. 6:21-23)

Why do you think Rahab's story is included in the Bible?

Guide kids to think about the fact that God loves all people, not just Israelites. Rahab had faith that God is the one true God and would give His people victory. God saved Rahab and her family and even used Rahab to be a part of Jesus' family line.

How can we practice trusting God and having faith in Him?

Guide kids to talk about some of the scary, sad, or frustrating situations they may face. Remind them that we can face those situations by trusting in God and remembering the hope we have through Jesus. Help them see that we can pray for help and have faith that God is working things for His glory and our good.

BEFORE BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this unit's key passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

SAY • God promised to be with His people, the Israelites. When we trust in Jesus, we become part of God's family, which means we are God's people too! Because God is with us to guide us and help us love and obey Him, we have nothing to be afraid of. Isn't God good to save us and help us glorify Him?

PARENT TIME/WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

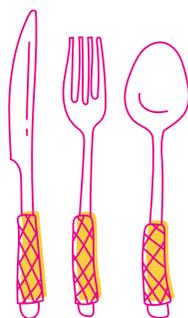
Story Point: "God made the walls of Jericho fall down."

Key Passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

Gospel Gems from the Story: • Rahab hid the spies. • God made the walls of Jericho fall down. • God used Rahab's family in His plan to send Jesus.

Big Picture Question: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Christ Connection: By faith Rahab believed God would win the battle, and she asked the spies to keep her safe. When the Israelites attacked Jericho, Rahab and her family were safe and they joined God's people. Jesus has won against sin and death. Everyone who trusts in Jesus is safe and becomes part of God's family forever.



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Unit 8 Lesson 3: Joshua 10-11; 24 "Taking the Land"

IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Answers will vary based on kid's experience, but it should be along the lines of the story point: "God made the sun stand still and gave His people victory."

Ask kids what they think the word glorify means

Point kids back to the big picture question we introduced last week: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

How did God help the Israelites win?

He confused the five kings' armies, threw hailstones at them, and stopped the sun from setting to give the Israelites more time to win.

HANGING OUT:

Ask kids what they would do if they had more than 24 hours in a day. Discuss the latest they have ever stayed up and why they stayed up that late.

SAY • No matter how late you stay up, there are only 24 hours in a day. So if you stay up late enough, you will actually go to sleep the next morning! But today we learned about one day that was different from every other day. God made it longer!

How do you think the Israelites felt as they witnessed the daylight hours extended so long?

Guide kids to discuss the amazing feeling they likely had as they saw God so clearly answer Joshua's prayer. Talk about other ways God miraculously provides for us.

What can we do to help us remember God's goodness and faithfulness to us?

Discuss with the kids different ways believers remember God's goodness, such as taking the Lord's supper, keeping a prayer journal, and studying the Bible to remember His plans and words.

SAY • God made the sun stand still and gave His people victory. He is always faithful to keep His promises. He promised a Rescuer, and He gave us victory over sin and death through that Rescuer—Jesus.

AT DINNER:

What did Joshua say to the people before he died years later?

He reminded them of all the wonderful things God had done for them and warned them to be faithful to God.

Before Joshua died, he reminded the people about their covenant with God, just as Moses did before he died. Why do you think he did that?

Discuss the idea that it's easy to say we trust God when we see amazing things, but over time we tend to forget. It is good for us to be reminded often of God's goodness and faithfulness.

How can we use our words for God's glory?

Lead kids to recognize that they can tell the truth, talk to others about Jesus, and encourage one another. We can all choose to honor God and bless others with our mouths, or we can dishonor Him and hurt others. God wants us to use our mouths to honor Him.

BEFORE BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this unit's key passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

SAY • God's promises to His people were good. Everyone who has faith in Jesus has a similar promise. Jesus said that He would be with His disciples until the end of the age. We can trust God to keep His promises, and to guide and protect us.

PARENT TIME/WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

Story Point: "God made the sun stand still and gave His people victory."

Key Passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 "The Lord... will be with you' he will not leave you or abandon you."

Gospel Gems from the Story: • God made the sun stand still. • God helped His people take the promised land.

• God always keeps His promises.

Big Picture Question: How can we glorify God? We can glorify God by loving Him and obeying Him.

Christ Connection: Joshua's name means "The Lord is salvation." God fought for Joshua and the Israelites, saving them and giving them victory over their enemies. God saved sinners by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross. Jesus gives us victory over sin and death.

