

Bible Stories for Adults

Jericho Falls Down

Joshua 1-6

Opening

Gathering: How have you been both anxious and fearful when you have moved to a new place?

Today's Focus: God promises to always be with us - wherever we go and whoever we are with.

Key Verses: *As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.* Joshua 1:5

Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Opening Prayer

Lesson

Passing Through Edom (*Numbers 20:14-21*)

After wandering in the wilderness for years, how did Israel decide it was time to head north?

Deuteronomy 2:1-3

Why did God protect the Edomites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:4-5

Did Edom grant Israel's request to pass through on the King's Highway?

Numbers 20:17-21

God Protects Moab and Ammon (*Deuteronomy 2:4-23*)

How long had passed when Israel reached Moab (Zered Brook)?

Deuteronomy 2:14-15

Why did God protect the Moabites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:9

Why did God protect the Ammonites from conquest by the Israelites?

Deuteronomy 2:19

Israel Defeats Eastern Amorites (*Numbers 21:21-35, Deuteronomy 2:24-3:11*)

How was Israel to capture the land east of the Jordan River? Why?

Deuteronomy 2:24-25

Who was responsible for the victory over Sihon, king of Heshbon?

Deuteronomy 2:32-33

Who was responsible for the victory over Og, king of Bashan?

Deuteronomy 3:3

Were these minor victories against simple towns and villages?

Deuteronomy 3:4-5

Besides the land, how did God bless the Israelites through these victories?

Deuteronomy 3:6-7 (2:25)

What territory did Israel claim after these two victories?

Deuteronomy 3:8

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Moab's Concern (*Numbers 22:1-20*)

How did Moab feel about this huge group of Israelites as neighbors?

Numbers 22:2-6

Note: Balaam was a well-known prophet from Pethor, in region of Haran (Abraham's homeland)

How did Balaam respond to the request?

Numbers 22:12-13

Was Balak good at accepting rejection?

Numbers 22:15-17

Did the money help?

Numbers 22:18, 20

Balaam's Donkey (*Numbers 22:21-41*)

How did God feel about Balaam's unspoken intention to curse Israel to get the money?

Numbers 22:22

How was Balaam protected from this angel and how did Balaam react to this protection?

Numbers 22:23-27

How did the donkey feel about this?

Numbers 22:28-30

How did Balaam finally realize what was happening?

Numbers 22:31-33

Did Balaam keep going or did he turn back?

Numbers 22:34-35

Balaam's Oracles (*Numbers 23-24*)

Did Balaam obey and say only what the Lord directed?

Numbers 23:5-10

How did Balak react to Balaam giving a blessing instead of a curse?

Numbers 23:11-13

Did Balaam curse the Israelites this time?

Numbers 23:19-20 (14-24)

How did Balak react this time?

Numbers 23:25-27

What did Balaam say this third time?

Numbers 24:9b (23:28-24:9)

Where did Balak want Balaam to go after this third blessing?

Numbers 24:10-11

Was Balaam finished?

Numbers 24:14, 17-19

Reuben, Gad, Manasseh Settle East of Jordan (*Numbers 32, Deuteronomy 3:12-20*)

What special request was made by the tribes of Reuben and Gad?

Numbers 32:1-2, 4-5

Did Moses grant their request?

Numbers 32:33

Were there any stipulations to this agreement?

Deuteronomy 3:18-20

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Israel's Instructions (*Numbers 33:50-35:34*)

What did God command of Israel before they crossed the Jordan River?

Numbers 33:51-54

What warning did God give?

Numbers 33:55-56

What was significant about the geography described in Numbers 34 & 35?

Numbers 34:1-2

Numbers 35:2, 6

The Torch is Passed (*Deuteronomy 3:21-29; Joshua 1*)

Would Moses continue to lead the Israelites to capture this land?

Deuteronomy 3:23, 25-28

What did God promise to Joshua when faced with this challenging task?

Joshua 1:1-5

What was Joshua's part in this?

Joshua 1:7-9

Did the Israelites accept Joshua as their new leader?

Joshua 1:16-18

Who Was Joshua?

When do we first hear of Joshua?

Exodus 17:8-9, 13

What was Joshua's job during Israel's wilderness wanderings?

Exodus 24:13 (33:11)

How did Joshua get his name?

Numbers 13:16

Where do we see Joshua's faithfulness early on?

Numbers 14:6-10a

How did God bless Joshua in response to his trust in God to give them the land He promised?

Numbers 14:30

Israel Crosses the Jordan River (*Joshua 3-4*)

How would God ensure that Israel looked to Joshua as their leader as they entered the Promised Land?

Joshua 3:1, 7

How did God immediately show Israel that He was with Joshua as He had been with Moses?

Joshua 3:15-17

Why did Joshua build a monument of twelve standing stones from the Jordan River?

Joshua 4:20-24

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Israel in the Promised Land (*Joshua 5*)

What had Israel failed to do in the desert that God made them do upon entering the Promised Land?

Joshua 5:3-5

What was significant about the timing that God brought them into the Promised Land?

Joshua 5:10

How did God show them that they had really arrived at their promised destination?

Joshua 5:11-12

What last way did God make sure the Israelites knew they were in His Promised Land?

Joshua 5:13-15

Israel Conquers Jericho (*Joshua 2, 6*)

What happened to the spies that Joshua sent to scope out Jericho?

Joshua 2:1-3, 6, 14-15

Why did Rahab do this?

Joshua 2:9-11

What other important role did Rahab play that even she didn't realize?

Matthew 1:1, 5-6a

What was God's plan for conquering the fortified city of Jericho?

Joshua 6:1-5

How successful was God's plan?

Joshua 6:15-16, 20-21, 25

How was faith a factor in the conquer of Jericho?

Hebrews 11:30-31

What curse did Joshua give to the destroyed city of Jericho?

Joshua 6:26

Was this curse ever fulfilled?

1 Kings 16:34

How did God use this to further support the leadership of Joshua?

Joshua 6:27

Closing Prayer

Response

1. When I have been in difficult deserts of life, have I recognized God's call and direction to leave?
(*Deuteronomy 2:1-3; Exodus 40:34-38; Psalm 119:105; Jeremiah 29:10-14; John 14:1-4*)
2. Do I ever feel that God loves only us Christians and forget His desire for all people?
(*Deuteronomy 2:4-23; Exodus 19:5-6; 1 Kings 19:13-18; Isaiah 49:6; Ezekiel 18:4a; Zech 8:20-23*)
3. When have I rejected God's will in order to pursue earthly gain?
(*Numbers 22; Matthew 6:19-24; Acts 8:9-25; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 2 Peter 2:15-16*)
4. How do I look beyond my own needs to help others grow spiritually?
(*Numbers 32; 1 Corinthians 9; 1 Corinthians 12; 2 Timothy 4:1-5*)
5. What visual reminders do I have that keep me focused on God daily?
(*Genesis 9:8-17; Genesis 17; Joshua 4:4-7; Deuteronomy 6:4-9; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)