

The Battle of Jericho

Materials

- Yellow craft foam
- Party horn
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Bugles snacks

Introduction

Today's lesson took place around 9,000 BC. This was about the same time that woolly mammoths became extinct. This was also the time that humans began farming, starting with figs.

Read the "Did You Know?" box at the bottom of p. 238 of your Spark Bible. Today you will study God's secret weapon for conquering Jericho.

First, you need to assemble your horn. The Israelites would have used a ram's horn in their march. This is called a shofar. Shofars are not something we see every day, but they have been around for a long, long time. In fact, they are one of the oldest wind instruments.

To create a horn, remove the paper a party horn. Then, using the yellow foam sheet, create a horn shape and tape it to the party horn.

Story

Look up Joshua 6:1-20 in the Spark Bible. There is a lot of activity in today's Bible story, and you're going to be doing much of it. Ask an adult to read the story. When he/she reads something that Israel is supposed to do, you are going to do it. You can use the horn you just created to blow as instructed.

Read Joshua 6:1-11. Stop and march one time around the imaginary city in the center of the room. Remember, be absolutely silent other than the horn(s).

Read Joshua 6:12-14. Stop and march again to act out day two. Remember, be absolutely silent other than the horn(s).

Read Joshua 6:15. Stop and march seven times around the city, then pause. Be absolutely silent other than the horn(s).

Read Joshua 6:16-20. Shout and charge the city.

Discuss:

The Old Testament is full of people who don't seem to stand a chance in battle, such as little David taking on mighty Goliath with a sack of stones. In this story, Joshua's priests and warriors are supposed to bring down Jericho with... trumpets? What do you suppose God was trying to demonstrate here with this strategy? (It was God's power that brought the walls down.) If you were one of Joshua's men or women and he told you about this plan, how do you think you'd react? Why?

Jericho has had a fairly tense history for much of its existence. Jericho has been contested territory between Israel and the Palestinians. Over the years, its inhabitants have known how to put up a good fight. It's safe to assume that the gates of the city were well protected and the soldiers standing watch were well trained. It may have been an old city even in Joshua's time! How does all of this reinforce the magnitude of what God plants to do here?

Why do you think God made a point to include this story in the Bible?

How does this story point us toward Jesus?

What does it mean to you?

Time Line & Time Capsule

Time capsule –Add a Bugle snack piece your time capsule.