

Activity: Build a wall

Build a really strong wall or fort. Search your home for recycling cardboard boxes or blocks and lego bricks to build your fort or wall. Test how strong your wall or fort is by throwing bean bags or soft balls. How much of your wall stays up? How strong is your wall?

Craft: Jericho horn

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfyntuGtAvs>

Watch:

Watch Saddleback kids story of Joshua and the walls of Jericho
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BAkwWE2UGLo>

Story: Joshua 5:13-6:21

What is a hero? A hero is someone who is courageous and brave. There are heroes and heroines in the Bible. All of them are brave, courageous, and more, but not always in the way you would expect. The hero in our Bible story today is Joshua. What makes him a hero? He served God with his whole heart. Joshua had a mission from God, to lead God's people from the desert into the land that He had promised them. One of the first things Joshua had to do was fight a battle to win Jericho - the best defended city in the land. God told Joshua exactly what he needed to do and promised to be there with them and give them victory. Joshua had to trust God and obey Him.

God spoke to Joshua and told him to do something very strange. God said that everyone - all God's people - had to march around Jericho, once. They weren't even allowed to talk! Only the priests were allowed to blow their horns. The next day God said the people had to do the same thing - march quietly round the city once and then go home. The next day, God said the same thing. (March around again.)

On the fourth day, God said the same - march once around the city. So they did. On the fifth day, guess what God said? Right - march around the city once. So what did God say on the sixth day? How about the seventh day? No.... this time, God said the people must march round the city 7 times. Then Joshua said everyone must shout praises to God.... and what do you think happened? The walls fell down. They fell inwards and Joshua and his soldiers killed everyone who lived there.

God enabled Joshua and his army to beat Jericho by simply blowing trumpets and shouting! They won this battle because Joshua was brave - he did exactly what God asked Him to do and didn't let fear stop him obeying God. He knew he didn't need to be scared because God had promised to be with them always.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank you that you are with us. Help us to be brave like Joshua when we feel scared. Amen.