

## Joshua and the Battle of Jericho

The battle of Jericho wasn't much of a battle. According to Joshua chapter 6, Joshua and the people did what God told them to do and God did the rest. The Israelites merely stood back and watched God bring down the walls of this heavily fortified city that stood at the threshold of the Promised Land.

### Joshua and the Battle of Jericho

The Israelites were now in the land that the Lord had promised to them. Joshua was happy that they were in the land but he knew that his job was not over. The people in the new land did not believe in God. They did not want God's people to live there. Joshua knew he must fight the people before the Israelites could live there. The first big city was Jericho. There were tall walls around the whole city. The walls were strong and the only way to get into the city was through the city gates. The people in Jericho would never open the gates to the Israelites! As Joshua was thinking about how he would conquer the city of Jericho, he noticed a man standing nearby. The man had a sword drawn as if he was ready to fight.

"Or you on our side or on our enemies' side?" Joshua asked.

"I am not for the enemy or for you. I am on the Lord's side!" The man told Joshua to take off his shoes because he was on holy ground. Joshua knew that this was not just a man. This was the voice of the Lord! The Lord gave Joshua special instructions on how to win the battle of Jericho. The instructions were very unusual but Joshua listened and then he left and did exactly as the Lord commanded.

First, Joshua told all of the army to line up. Then he told the priests to pick up the Ark of the Covenant and carry it behind the army. Seven priests were to walk in front of the Ark of the Covenant with big trumpet horns. Joshua told all of the people and some more fighting men to follow last, behind the ark.

So everyone lined up. First the army, then the seven priests blowing trumpets, then the priests who carried the Ark of the Covenant, then the people and a guard of fighting men. All of them marched one time around the city of Jericho. The army and the people did not make any sound.

The people inside the city of Jericho must have laughed at the Israelites! They probably thought the Israelites were crazy. Why were they marching around the city? They would never win any battles that way. Even though it seemed an odd thing, Joshua and the people did exactly what the Lord commanded. They marched around the city one time, every day, for six days.

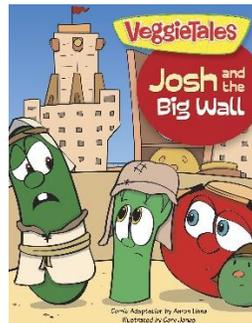
On the seventh day, the Lord commanded the Israelites to march around the city seven times, not just once. The people knew that after the seventh time, when they heard the trumpets, they were supposed to shout as loud as they could. That is exactly what they did. When the priests blew the trumpets, the people shouted at the top of their voices. Guess what happened? All of the strong walls of Jericho broke into small pieces and fell down!

The people must have been very excited. Now they could enter Jericho and win the battle! There were many rich things in Jericho. There were gold and silver and other riches. Joshua told the Israelites not to keep anything for themselves. Any riches that were found would belong to the Lord. They put it into the treasury in the tabernacle of the Lord.

Joshua remembered that the woman, Rahab, had protected the spies when they had come to Jericho. She had put a red cord in her window just as the spies had told her. When the Israelites saw the cord, they let Rahab and her family leave the city safely. They were the only people to escape Jericho alive.

You Tube Videos:

### [Battle of Jericho](#)



### [Josh and The Big Wall - VeggieTales](#)

- 1. What did God tell the people to do? (March around Jericho.)**
- 2. What kind of trumpets did the priests carry? (The trumpets were made from ram's horns.)**
- 3. How many days did God tell His people to march around Jericho? (Seven days.)**

4. What did the priests do as they marched around Jericho? (The priests blew their trumpets.)

5. Did the rest of the people make any noise when they marched around the city the first six times? (No, Joshua commanded them to be quiet until he told them to shout.)

6. On the seventh day, how many times did the people march around Jericho? (Seven times.)

7. What did Joshua tell the people to do when they heard the trumpets, after marching around the city seven times? (Give a loud shout.)

8. What happened to the wall of Jericho when the people gave a loud shout? (The wall fell down)

I've never completed a 5000 piece puzzle- but I can.

I would imagine it gets very *tedious*. You spend a lot of your time digging through a pile of pieces, looking for the specific piece that fits into the spot you need. You have to wonder, "Is it all worth it?"

God's instructions can seem tedious at times. The Bible teaches us, over and over, that following God is the best way to live our lives. When we obey God, we spread the love of God to others. We share love instead of hate. We do good instead of harm. We set an example for other people by our purity. It can be challenging to do the right thing all the time, but the more we study God's directions, the easier it is to obey God.

God wants to build you up into a person of faith. If you want to be all God designed you to be, it's up to you to follow the instructions. Step by step, brick by brick, we need to obey God's Word. God will honor your obedience. He will do the impossible. He will build something great in your life!

**Prayer:**

**God, help us to trust and follow**

**You even when it does not make sense to us.**

**You are a God who always keeps your promises. Thank you for always being with us.**

**Amen.**

