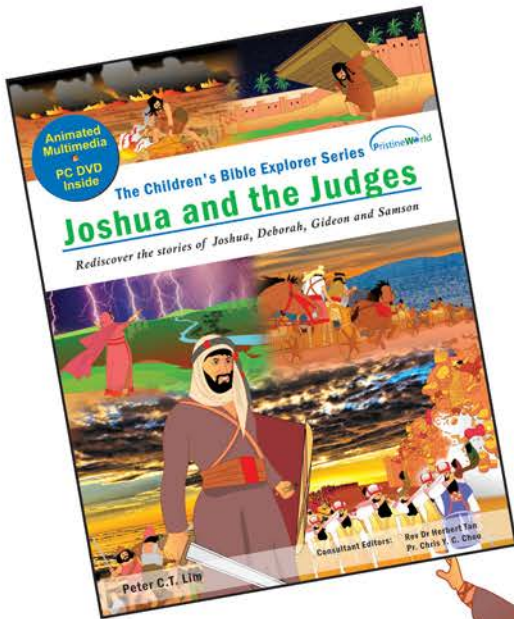


Student Workbook for

Ages

7-8



Based on
The Children's Bible Explorer Series
Joshua and the Judges

SAMPLE

Student Activity Workbook

for Ages 7 - 8

Based on

The Children's Bible Explorer Series

Joshua and the Judges

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Olivia Cheah Jeng Yee
Edited by **Debbie Loh**

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 1: Joshua and the Spies of Jericho

Bible Truth:

God is with us wherever we go. He gives us strength and we do not have to be afraid.

Objective:

Learn that God is with us always and will give us strength and courage.

Bible Reference:

Joshua 1:1-10; Joshua 2:1-24

Memory Verse:

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. God is with you wherever you go.”

Joshua 1:9



Lessons from the Story:

1. Joshua is the new leader of Israel. Jericho is the first city in the Promised Land that they have to conquer.
2. Joshua sends out spies to scout out Jericho before attacking it.
3. The spies meet Rahab who helps them because she trusts in Israel's God. In the end, Rahab is saved from the attack because of her faith in God.

Word Search

Find and shade these words in the puzzle

Jericho
Rahab
Brave
Spies
Wall

E	B	L	E	G	L	E	E
D	F	R	S	L	L	O	V
S	M	T	A	U	H	P	A
P	S	W	R	C	M	P	R
O	P	R	I	U	O	I	B
K	I	R	A	H	A	B	R
V	E	T	B	E	Y	T	A
J	S	T	E	V	G	U	G

Tell your teacher or a friend

Is there something you had to do recently that made you feel afraid? (E.g. give a speech, represent your school in a competition, sit for an exam, get your teeth checked by a dentist, etc.)

What helped to make you feel less afraid?

Learn from Rahab

Rahab heard of all the things that God had done for the Israelites. She chose to help the spies because she believed she would be saved, too.

Rahab helped the spies escape through the window of her house which was part of the city wall. The spies told Rahab to tie a red cord in the window so that when the city was attacked, Rahab's family would not be harmed.

MAKE A RED CORD BOOKMARK

Materials needed: Red yarn/wool, beads

Instructions:

1. Each child gets 3 long strands of red yarn.
2. Braid or plait the 3 strands together
3. Thread one or two beads at the end of the braid and secure with a knot.

Use this as a bookmark in your Bible to remind you that God is with you and will help you if you trust in Him like Rahab did.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You that you are with me everywhere I go. When I feel afraid, please give me courage to do what is right. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 2: The Israelites Cross the Jordan

Bible Truth:

God goes before us to guide us.

Objective:

Always remember what God has done for us.

Bible Reference:

Joshua 3 - 4

Memory Verse:

"You shall know that the living God is among you." Joshua 3:10a



Lessons from the Story:

1. The Israelites had to cross the Jordan river to get to Jericho.
2. Led by the Ark of the Covenant, God stopped the flow of the water so that all the Israelites can cross on dry land.
3. The Israelites built a memorial using stones, to remind people of the miracle God did for them.

Discover: Write in the missing letters

1. The waters parted as soon as the p___ests stepped onto the edge of the river.
2. The whole ___ti__n crossed the river on dry ground.
3. God told Joshua to build a m___or___al of 12 stones to mark the place where the Israelites c___os___ed the Jordan.

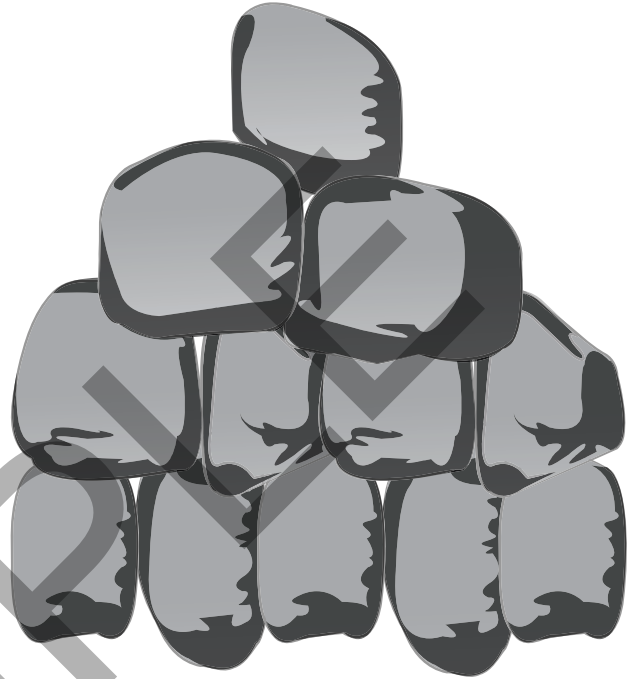
Build your own Memorial

Materials needed: 12 stones or pebbles

As a class, build a memorial using 12 stones (representing the tribes of Israel) to thank God for things He has done.

Instructions:

1. Sit in a circle. Each child lays one stone in the middle to form a 'pyramid' as in the diagram (bigger groups can build several memorials, in smaller groups each child can lay more than one).
2. As each stone is laid, ask each child to share with the class something he or she is thankful to God for.
3. Alternatively, with a marker pen, each child can write on each stone something he or she is thankful for (e.g. 'church', 'family', 'food', etc...).



Respond

Write down some other things that you are thankful to God for:

1: _____

2: _____

3: _____

4: _____

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for leading and guiding us. Please help us to remember to give You thanks and praise every day. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 3: Joshua and the Battle of Jericho

Bible Truth:

When we trust God, we can bring blessing to others.

Objective:

Learn to trust God and obey His commands.

Bible Reference:

Joshua 6

Memory Verse:

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart.” Proverbs 3: 5

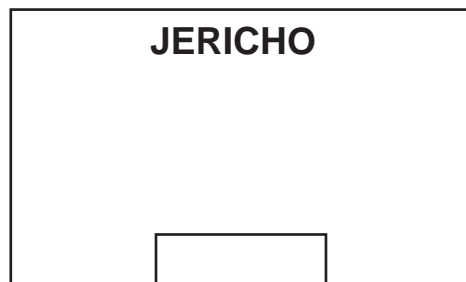


Lessons from the Story:

1. Joshua followed God's instructions to march around the city walls of Jericho. On the seventh day, the walls came down and the Israelites took over the city.
2. Rahab and her family were saved because Rahab had believed in God.

The March

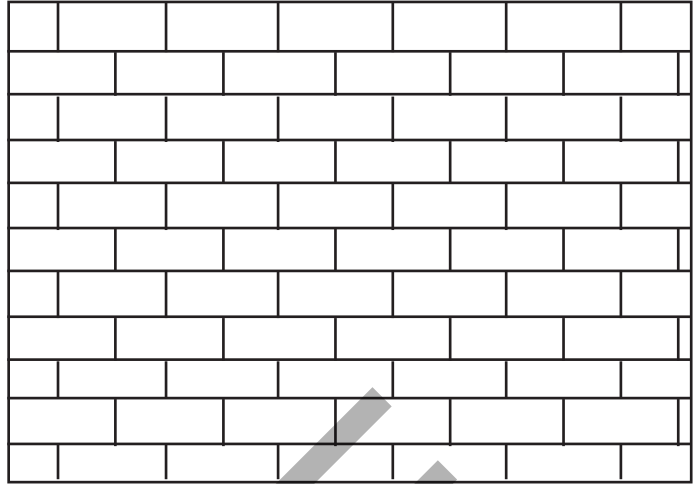
The Israelites marched around the city wall in groups. There were the priests who blew trumpets, Joshua and the armed guards, the Ark of the Covenant, and the rear guards. Write them down in the order, clockwise, in which they were told to march and use arrows to show them going around the wall. (e.g. of questions: Why did they follow God's strange instructions? Why did God want the people to carry the ark around?)



BREAK DOWN the WALL of Jericho!

Materials needed:

Old boxes (ideally, about the same size. Teacher can ask children to bring unwanted boxes from home the week before), toy trumpet or paper cone



Instructions:

1. Stack the boxes to create a wall.
2. Assign or let the children take turns to be the 'priest' with the trumpet.
3. Children march around the 'wall' seven times.
4. After the seventh round, have the 'priest' blow the trumpet and everyone else is to 'knock' the wall down.

Tell your teacher

Was it tiring to walk around the 'city wall' so many times?

What do you think the Israelites might have thought about God's instructions?

Did marching round the wall seem a strange way to fight the enemy?

Sometimes God's ways may seem unusual, but He knows what's best and He is in control.

Respond

Is there something difficult or unusual that you have to do this week?

Share with a friend or teacher. Pray together and ask God for His help.

Prayer:

Dear God, help me to trust that You know best and help me to always seek you and follow Your commandments. Thank You, Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 4: The Battle of Ai

Bible Truth:

When we sin, it affects others.
When we confess our sin, God forgives and helps us.

Objective:

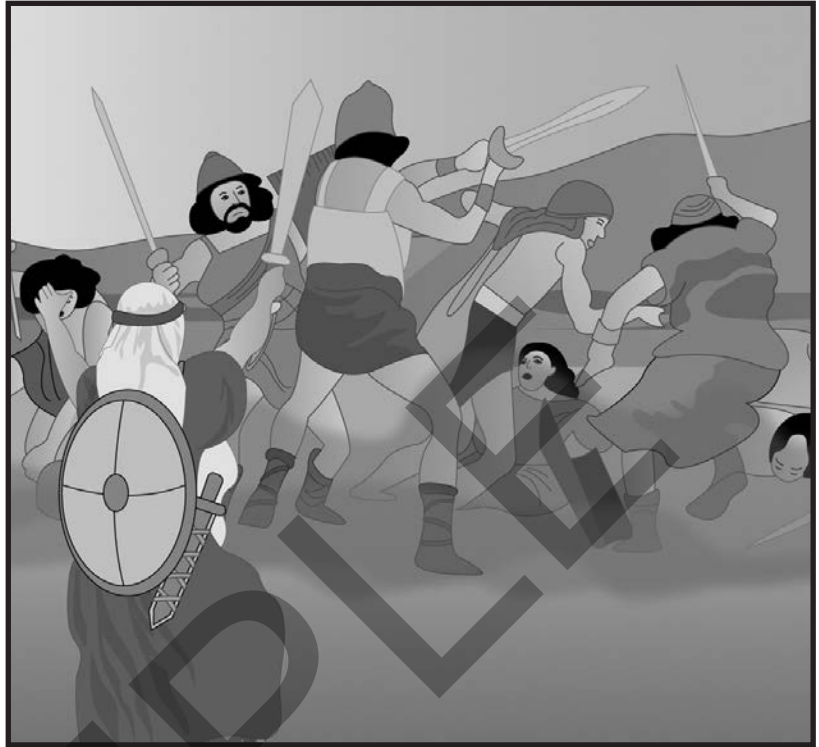
Learn that it is important to confess our sins and ask God for forgiveness.

Bible Reference:

Joshua 7 - 8

Memory Verse:

"If we confess our sins, He will forgive us." 1 John 1:9



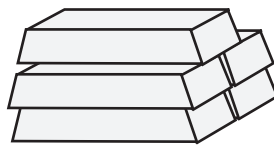
Lessons from the Story:

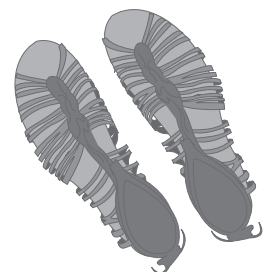
1. Achan's disobedience caused the Israelites to lose the battle against Ai. Achan thought he could hide his sin, but he and his family were punished.
2. Joshua obeyed God's instructions given through Moses. He reminded the people of God's commandments and to always follow and obey them.

What did Achan hide?

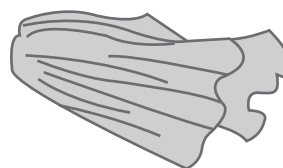
Circle and write down the things Achan took from Ai and hid away.











Telling the truth

Circle the 'wrong' word. Then write the correct word in the space.

1. After conquering Jericho, Joshua kept some silver and gold for himself.

Correct word: _____

2. The Lord said to Joshua, "Point the trumpet in your hand toward Ai, for I will hand the town over to you."

Correct word: _____

3. "Make me an altar from trees that are uncut and have not been shaped with iron tools."

Correct word: _____

4. Joshua then read to them all the blessings and curses that Caleb had written in the Book of Law.

Correct word: _____

Respond

1. Have you ever told a lie?

2. How has your lying affected yourself or others?

3. What should be the right thing to do?

Prayer:

Dear God, please forgive me for the times I have sinned. Help me to always tell the truth and to do what is right. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 5: Judges – Deborah Leads Israel

Bible Truth:

When we sin repeatedly, God punishes, but He is also patient and merciful.

Objective:

Learn not to take God's grace for granted and to obey Him faithfully.

Bible Reference:

Judges 2: 10-19 and 4: 1-8

Memory Verse:

"The LORD is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love." Psalm 145:8



Lessons from the Story:

1. After Joshua died, God used judges (like Deborah) to lead His people. But the Israelites disobeyed God many times and were punished.
2. Deborah led the Israelites according to God's instructions and the nation was saved.
3. God used different judges to lead and care for Israel even though they sinned repeat-

Following instructions

Materials needed: Blindfolds (long dark cloth)

A chosen object (a pencil case, a bag – something that each pair agrees on)

Instructions:

Find a partner. One person is blindfolded. The 'blind person' must listen to his partner's instructions to place the chosen object somewhere across the room in a corner, under or on a table or chair. All pairs are to do this at the same time. Once the blind person successfully places the object at the right place, he or she exchanges places with their partner and becomes the one to give instructions.

Talk to each other:

- 1) Was it easy to follow your partner's instructions? Why or why not?

- 2) What do you think are some of God's instructions to you?

Verse Puzzle

God knows best. He has plans for us and we should learn to trust Him. Photocopy, cut out each box and join the boxes to form a Bible verse. You can paste it on a long card to make a bookmark.

<p>PLANS</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:11</p>	<p>FOR</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:11</p>
<p>Jeremiah 29:11</p> <p>MONK I</p>	<p>Jeremiah 29:11</p> <p>THE</p>
<p>FOR YOU</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:11</p>	<p>I HAVE</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:11</p>

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You that You are merciful and forgive me each time I sin. You know best, so help me to always follow You. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 6: Prophetess Deborah vs. Commander Sisera

Bible Truth:

God will accomplish His plans though we are weak and fearful.

Objective:

Learn to be brave to do what is right.

Bible Reference:

Judges 4:8-23

Memory Verse:

“Arise! God has given Sisera to you!” Judges 4:14b



Lessons from the Story:

1. God delivered the Israelites again even though they turned from him.
2. God used ordinary people like Deborah and Barak to defeat Sisera and his army even though they were more powerful.
3. God will accomplish His plans even though we are weak and fearful.

Confusion!

Unscramble the words below to form words from the story of Deborah and Barak.

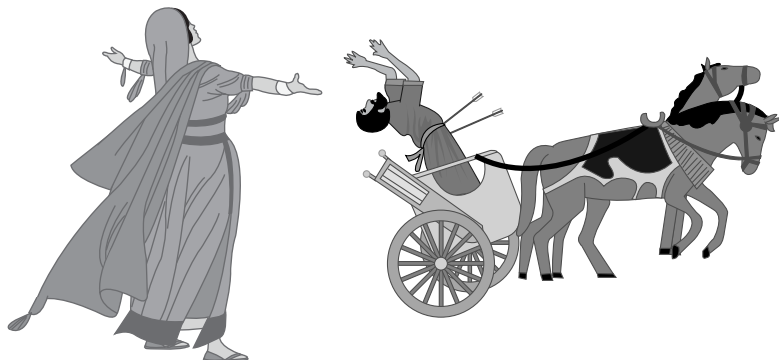
ESSIRA _____

TRIACHOS _____

KRAAB _____

HARBEDO _____

EALJ _____



Making Chariots – Activity

Materials needed:

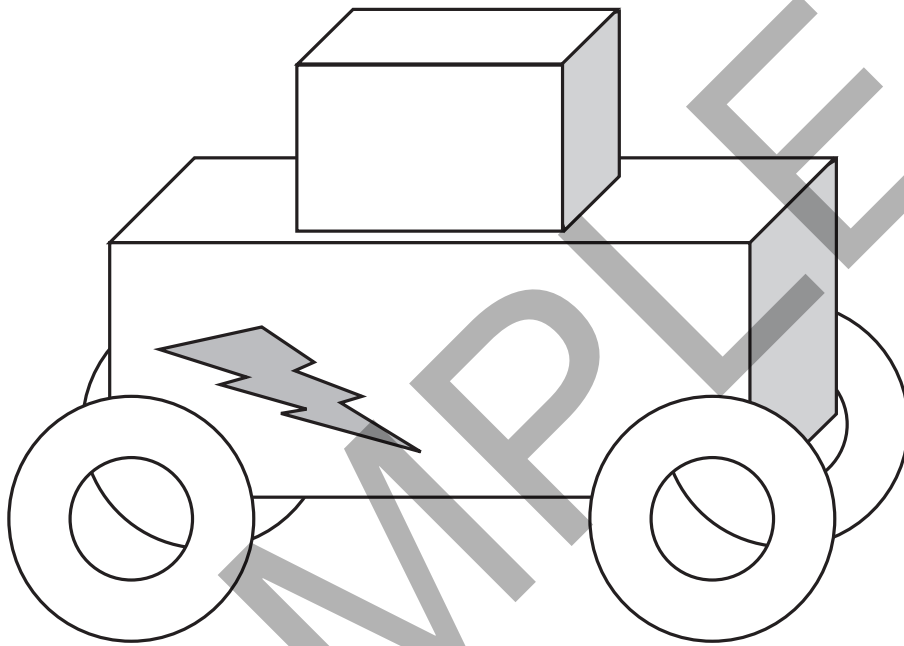
Empty name card boxes or matchboxes, thick card, coloured paper, glue, scissors, paint (optional)

Instructions:

Cut out shapes of wheels from thick card.

Glue a bigger and smaller box together to make a chariot.

Cut out shapes from coloured paper to glue and decorate on the boxes, or paint them if you wish, but leave a space to write the memory verse (see below).



Respond

The Israelites were afraid because Sisera's army had 900 iron chariots. They could move faster and were more powerful. But Barak's army had only 10,000 men on foot. Yet, God told Israel that they would win.

Is there something that you are afraid of doing?

Write today's memory verse on your 'chariot' as a reminder that God is with you and will help you.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for loving me and using me in Your plans. Please help me to be brave and to do what is right. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 7: The Calling of Gideon

Bible Truth:

We may think we are weak but God looks for those who are obedient and gives them strength and success.

Objective:

Learn that God loves an obedient heart.

Bible Reference:

Judges 6

Memory Verse:

“Go in the strength that you have and save Israel out of Midian’s hand. Am I not sending you?”
Judges 6:14



Lessons from the Story:

God chooses people whom we may not think are suitable. Gideon felt afraid and weak, but he was obedient, and God used him to defeat the Midianite army.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Are these jobs easy to do? Or are they difficult?

How can God use you in those jobs?

Can you guess what Gideon and the Israelites used to defeat the Midianites?

Read Judges 7: 16. They used torches and jars instead of swords!

God can use anyone as long as they are willing and learn to trust Him. In the box below, draw a picture of a torch and a jar and write these words below your drawing. **“God can use me if I trust Him”**. You can colour your drawing or decorate it with torn-out bits of coloured paper.

SAMPLE

Prayer:

Dear God, even if I feel weak, help me know that You give me strength. Thank You for using me in Your plans. Please help be brave and to always do what is right. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 8: Gideon and the Midianites

Bible Truth:

God is gracious even when we doubt Him. He will help us to believe and trust Him fully.

Objective:

Learn that we can experience and know God for ourselves (and not just from our teachers or parents).

Bible Reference:

Judges 7

Memory Verse:

"Taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him." Psalm 34:8



Lessons from the Story:

1. Even though Gideon doubted God (by asking God three times for a sign), God was gracious and provided Gideon with the assurance that he needed.
2. Gideon learned to trust God and obeyed immediately when God told him to reduce the number of his soldiers.

Draw the answers to the questions.

1. The Lord told Gideon that he still had too many warriors. Where did He ask Gideon to bring them to?

2. Gideon divided the 300 men into three groups. What did he give each man?

3. When the Israelites blew their trumpets, the Lord caused the warriors in the camp to fight against each other with their own _____

Activity – What makes the beans grow?

Materials needed: Empty plastic mineral bottles, scissors, water, cotton wool, small green beans.

Instructions:

1. Cut the plastic bottle in half. Use only the bottom half of the bottle.
2. Fill the bottle which is now your pot with cotton wool and soak it with a little water.
3. Place beans on top of the cotton wool
(Teacher to explain: Wait for a few days before the beans sprout.)

Talk about it:

1. What do you think makes the beans grow? Can you see these things?
2. What about you? – Who helps you even if you can't see them?

We do our part by making sure the beans have the right amount of water, some air and not too much light. God our Creator has made it such that these things help the beans to grow.

Respond

Even though we cannot see God, He is actively involved in our lives, helping us grow and listening to our prayers. God wants us to know Him.

Is there an area in your life that you want God to help you grow in or improve? Tell your teacher or a friend.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, thank You always being with me even if I can't see you. Help me to know more about You as I grow. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 9: Samson – An Unusual Birth and Wedding Story

Bible Truth:

When we believe in Jesus, we are set apart for Him to do good works.

Objective:

Learn that God made each of us for a purpose.

Bible Reference:

Judges 13 & 14

Memory Verse:

“But you are a chosen people, a people belonging to God.”

1 Peter 2:9



Lessons from the Story:

1. Samson was a Nazirite who took a special vow (promise). This meant that he was set apart and dedicated for God's work. God used him as a judge over Israel.
2. Samson was not perfect and sometimes chose his own way rather than God's way.

Making Promises ... and Keeping them

When you say “I will” you are promising to do something. Did you promise your parents or teacher to do something this week? Share with the class.

(E.g.: I promise I will do my homework. I promise I will eat my vegetables.)

What were the vows (promises) that Samson made as a Nazirite?

(Judges 13: 12-13)

1. He will never cut his _____ .
2. He will never drink _____ .
3. He will never eat _____ .

Samson collage

You will need coloured tissue or crepe paper, and black yarn or wool.

Roll bits of the coloured paper into tiny pieces and glue onto the picture to make a collage. Give Samson his long hair by sticking pieces of black yarn or wool on his head.



Respond

God has a special plan for your life. Are you willing to let God use you?

Think of something simple you can do to bless a friend or your parents this week. Share with the class some ideas. _____

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, help me to be a good example of one who follows You. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 10: Samson vs. the Philistines

Bible Truth:

Our gifts and talents come from God. We can use them to bless others.

Objective:

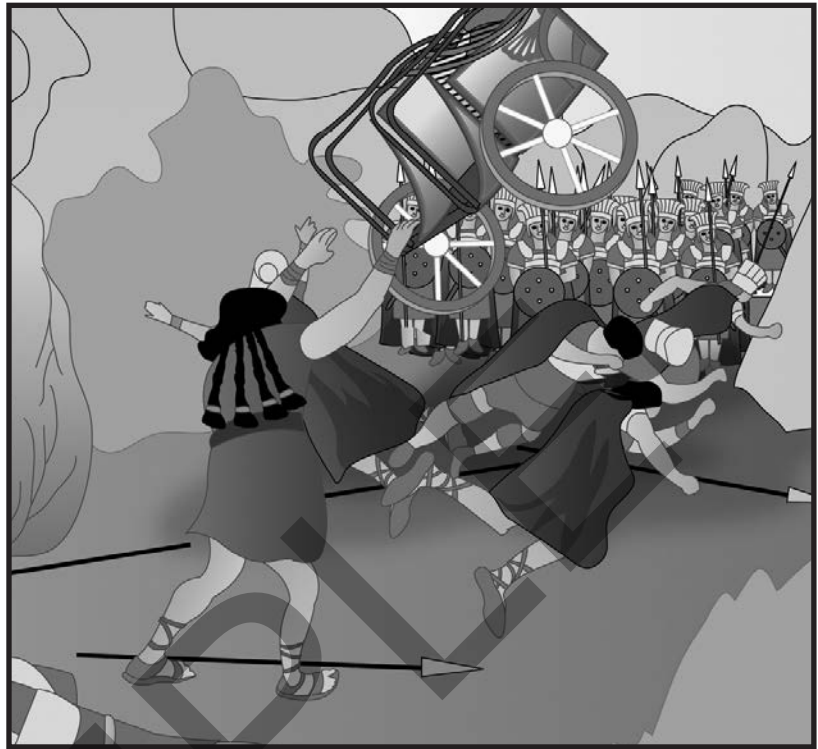
Learn to use our gifts and talents for God's glory.

Bible Reference:

Judges 15:1-20

Memory Verse:

"Look to the Lord and his strength. Seek his face always."
1 Chronicles 16:11



Lessons from the Story:

1. Samson had a special gift from God – great strength. As long as he kept his vow not to cut his hair, he would always be very strong.
2. God uses Samson to free the Israelites from the cruelty of the Philistines.

Tell me your talent!

Materials needed: One or two sheets of mahjong paper, Blu tac, coloured markers.

Instructions:

1. Fix mahjong paper to a wall with Blu tac.
2. Give everyone a marker.
3. At the count of three, everyone runs to the wall and writes on the mahjong paper as many 'talents' (what they are good at doing) on the paper.
E.g.: playing the piano, drawing, singing, playing games, etc... . Give a time limit of 10 seconds for the children to write.
4. Teacher then reads out all the different talents. Get the class to see who has which talents in common. The teacher can write the names of the children beside the talents. Encourage the children to share about how or when they last used their talent.

amy singing ben drawing
carol
praying eating john

Samson vs the Philistines

Write the correct answers in the spaces below.

1. Samson was angry that the Philistines had taken away his wife. He went and caught _____(how many) _____(type of animal).
2. He tied the _____ (which part) of the foxes together, put torches in them, and set _____ (something hot) to the Philistines' wheat fields.
3. Then later, Samson found the _____ (which part) of a donkey and killed _____ (how many) Philistines with it.

Respond

God has given us gifts and talents (strengths) and has a special plan for each of us.

On a piece of card, write the name of a friend in class and fill in that friend's talent/strength from what was written earlier on the mahjong paper.

Decorate it and give it to your friend.

____(name)____

YOU ARE GOOD AT

(write the talent/strength)

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for the talents You have given me and that You have a special purpose for my life. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 11: Samson and Delilah

Bible Truth:

When we fall into temptation, it is sin. God will help us when we turn to Him.

Objective:

Learn how to deal with temptation.

Bible Reference:

Judges 16:4-31

Memory Verse:

“Watch and pray so you do not fall into temptation.”
Matthew 26:41



Lessons from the Story:

1. Samson allowed himself to be tempted by the enemy, Delilah.
2. When Samson broke his Nazirite vow, God took away his great strength and Samson was punished by the Philistines.
3. Samson turned back to God and asked God for forgiveness and help. God gave him victory over the Philistines.

What is temptation?

It is wanting to have or do something that you know is wrong.
What were some of the things Samson was tempted by?

Circle the correct words:

1. He was tempted by Philistine **women** / **treasure**.
2. He was tempted by food he **was allowed** / **wasn't allowed** to eat.

‘Hot Potato’ Temptation Game

Materials needed: A large potato, music (CD player or someone playing a guitar/piano)

1. Begin by listing on a board or mahjong paper, various things that everyone can be tempted to do (E.g.: lying to my parents, watching a TV program I’m not supposed to, sleeping late, etc...). Also write the words: SAY NO TO TEMPTATION!
2. Have the children read out the words on the board to familiarise themselves.
3. Everyone is to sit in a circle and pass around an object or the potato as the music is being played. (Everyone has to pretend that the potato is ‘hot’ so they have to pass it on quickly.)
4. When the music stops, the person holding the potato is to shout out one temptation written on the board (e.g.: Lying! Sleeping late! Cheating in a test!). Then the rest of the group is to shout back, “SAY NO TO TEMPTATION!”
5. The person holding the potato then shouts “NO!” and passes the potato along when the music begins again.
6. Repeat steps 3 – 5 until everyone or at least half the group has had a chance to ‘hold the potato’.

Respond

Is there something that you find hard to say no to?

Share with a friend and pray together for God to help you.

Prayer:

Dear Lord Jesus, please give me the strength to turn away when I am faced with temptations. Thank You for helping me to obey You. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Lesson 12: Epilogue to Joshua and the Judges

Bible Truth:

God used ordinary people to help His people. But later, He sent His only Son Jesus to be the Saviour of the world.

Objective:

Connecting themes in Judges and Joshua with Jesus as Saviour and Lord.

Memory Verse:

“Thanks be to God. We have victory in Jesus!”
1 Corinthians 15:57

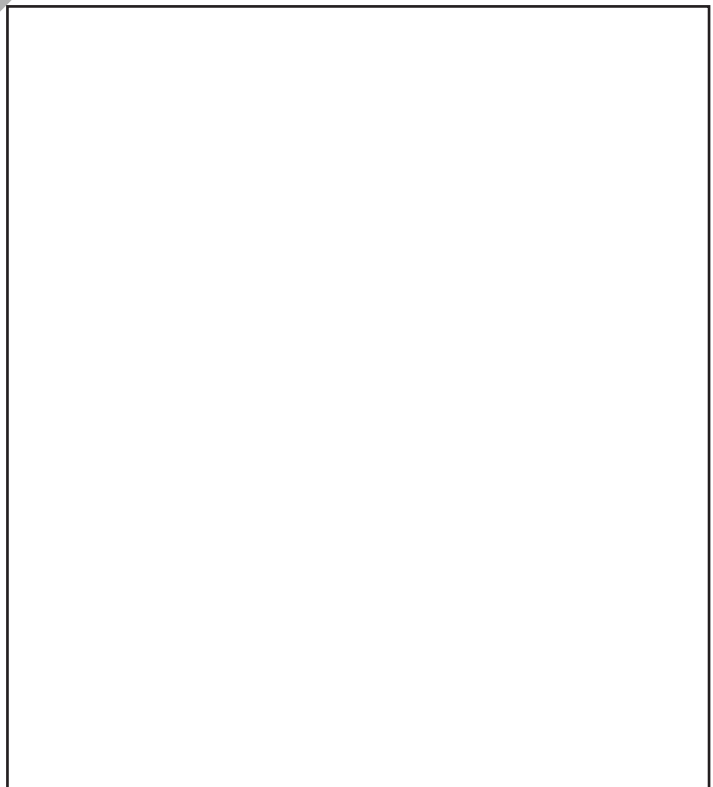


Lessons from all Stories:

1. God helps and gives victory if we are faithful and obedient.
2. God forgives even though we are sinners.
3. God guides and gives instructions.
4. God calls unlikely people to do His work.
5. In the days of Judges, God used different people to save Israel from their enemies. Later, God sent the perfect Saviour – Jesus Christ – to save Israel and us from our sins.

Let's REMEMBER...

Which lesson can you remember best? Draw in the space here:



We can learn from ...

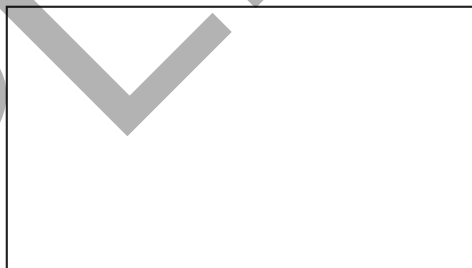
Write the answers. Then draw the correct pictures.

They obeyed God's instructions to march around Jericho city for seven days. Who were they? _____



She was a brave woman and helped the spies escape because she trusted God. _____

He was scared but obeyed God. God helped him defeat the Midianites with only 300 men. Who was he? _____



He used his special gift to save the Israelites. Who was he? _____

Respond

In the books of Joshua and Judges, God used ordinary people to save Israel. Later on, God sent Jesus as the Perfect Saviour to die on the cross to take away our sins and help us obey God.

Do you want to know Jesus more? Are you ready to let Him be Lord of your life? Ask your teacher or an adult to pray with you.

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, Thank You for dying on the cross for me. Thank You for loving me so much. Help me to follow You always. Amen.

Joshua and the Judges

Notes

SAMPLE