

Review of Israel's Conquest of Canaan; Division of the Land under Joshua's Leadership

Deuteronomy-Joshua



Old Testament 5
Part 1: Israel's Cycle of Disobedience; The Time of the Judges

SUNDAY MORNING

Old Testament 5 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Numbers 27:15-23; Deuteronomy 3:23-28; 34; Joshua 1-4; 6; 13-21

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15c).

OLDER CHILDREN: "[C]hoose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15b).

SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- ["The Death of Moses"](#)
- ["Joshua's Choice"](#)
- ["God's Little Children Love Living Right!"](#)
- ["Faith, Obedience, and Authority"](#)
- ["Rahab and the Spies"](#)
- ["Israel Crosses Jordan into Canaan"](#)
- ["Fall of Jericho"](#)
- ["Walls of Jericho"](#)
- ["Jericho's Falling"](#)
- ["Achan"](#)
- ["Achan"](#)

LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Judges and King Saul](#) Bible fact cards (provided under "O.T. 5 Bible Facts" on curriculum Web site)
- "Summary of the Bible" from ["Kids Prep"](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Betty Lukens' felt pieces
- Joshua A Beka Flash-A-Card Series (DISCLAIMER: use the cards, *not the lesson book*)
- [Map of the Conquest of Canaan](#) (provided in maps section of curriculum site)
- [Map of the Twelve Tribes of Israel](#) (provided in maps section of curriculum site)



- Pictures of the Bible, the cross, the Lord’s Supper, etc., which remind us of what God has done for us
- Pictures of idols and modern things that distract us from serving/obeying God

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must choose to obey God every day. I want to obey God, because of what He has done for me.

LESSON STARTS HERE

INTRODUCTION:

With God’s power, Moses became a great leader who led the Israelites out of Egyptian slavery. Another great man took his place after he died. What was his name? [Joshua] Today we’re going to review what happened when Joshua took over for Moses, and the Israelites entered the Promised Land.

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Remind the children that the Israelites (Jews, Hebrews) were slaves of the Egyptian empire for 215 years. Then God sent Moses to free them and guide them to the homeland (Canaan, the Promised Land, Palestine) He had promised to give them (as Abraham’s descendants) many years earlier. After miraculously crossing the Red Sea on dry land, the Israelites began their long journey into the wilderness area of the Sinai Peninsula.



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article “[How Long Was the Israelites’ Egyptian Bondage?](#)” on the Apologetics Press Web site for a response to an alleged discrepancy in the Bible regarding how long the Israelites were in bondage.

2. God provided them with food and water throughout their journey. He protected them from powerful armies of idol-worshipping people. He proved to them through great miracles that He would always be with them and help them, but He expected them to obey Him without question. Sadly, the Israelites grumbled and complained, and many disobeyed God over and over again. [Make sure to explain the meaning of “grumble” and “complain,” especially to the younger children.] Finally, God punished them by making them move from place to place in the wilderness for 40 years. An entire generation of the Israelites died, and God brought their children to the Promised Land to make it their own.
3. On the east side of the Jordan River, Moses (now 120 years old) climbed to the top of Mount Nebo to look out over the beautiful land where his people would live. Moses died there, and Joshua became the leader of the Israelites (Numbers 27:16-18). God chose Joshua to take Moses’ place, because he was a man of great faith. Joshua had been one of the two spies 40 years earlier who had encouraged the people to go into Canaan and conquer it. Caleb and he were the only two survivors of that generation who were allowed to go into Canaan. Joshua led the Israelites in many battles against idol-worshipping people, the first of which was the battle of Jericho.
4. After six or seven years of fighting for the land God had promised them, Joshua and the Israelite army had defeated 31 Canaanite kings (chieftains). There were still some Canaanite enemies

that had not been completely destroyed, and there was still more fighting to do, but it was time for Joshua to let other men lead the battles. He was at least 90 years old, possibly even 100. He would spend the rest of his days dividing up the land among the 12 tribes so they could settle the land.

5. The Israelites were descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The Israelites were divided into 12 tribes, according to the 12 sons of Jacob from whom they descended. So the land was divided among the 12 tribes, except for the tribe (descendants) of Levi. God wanted the tribe of Levi (Levites) to lead the Israelites in worship (to be priests). So they were given cities spread throughout the tribes, instead of large areas of land.



NOTE: The Levites were given 48 cities and towns in which they could live. Their portion of land was divided between Ephraim and Manasseh, the sons of Joseph. The tribes of **Reuben, Gad,** and half of the tribe of **Manasseh** wanted to settle on the eastern side of the Jordan River, apart from the rest of the tribes. Joshua, with the help of the High Priest, Eleazar (Aaron's son), assigned land to the other nine and one-half tribes, on the west side of the Jordan River. **Judah** received the largest amount of land, but it was not the best land for farming or flocks of animals; it was very strategically important, however. The sand hill country south of Judah's land was given to **Simeon**. The tribe of **Dan** was given the hill country north of Judah. Years later, this tribe moved to the far north of the Sea of Galilee. **Benjamin** was given a very small portion of land north of Judah's. Though not rich in land, the tribe of Benjamin was very prominent in the politics and leadership of the nation of Israel in years to come. **Ephraim** and the remaining half of **Manasseh** were given land north of Benjamin. The remaining northern territory of Canaan [which would later be known as the Plain of Esdraelon and Galilee] was divided between **Issachar, Zebulun, Asher,** and **Naphtali**.

6. After dividing up the land among the tribes, Joshua settled in the land with which he was rewarded, near Shechem. He had been a great soldier and leader, but at the age of 110, he knew that his life would soon be over. He was concerned that the Israelites would not follow God after his death. So he called all the leaders of the tribes together, probably near Shiloh (Joshua 18:1). He reviewed with them all the great ways God had helped them through the years. He reminded them that God had kept His promises to them for centuries and that God would not take second place. God expected the Israelites to worship Him and Him alone. All those listening to Joshua said, three times, that they would follow God's commandments. Joshua challenged them: "Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord! And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:14-15). As a reminder to them of their promises to obey God, Joshua set up a stone under an oak tree near the Tabernacle. He wrote his words down so that the people could look at them later and remember what they had promised.

7. There were many reminders to the people to be faithful to God: the battlegrounds all over Canaan where Joshua had led them in battle, the large stone Joshua set up under the oak tree, Joshua's written words, and even the grave of Joshua. The Israelites needed reminders, and so do we. Today, reminders for us to be faithful include God's written Word, the cross of Jesus, and the Lord's Supper. In everything we do, God wants us to **remember** what He has done for us and to choose to obey Him all the time (to always be faithful).



RECOMMENDED READING FOR TEACHERS: See the article "[God's Just Destruction of the Canaanites](#)" by Eric Lyons on the Apologetics Press Web site for further study on how the extermination of the Canaanites can be harmonized with the nature of God.

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#).

Ages 2-5:

- "[Canaan Divided Coloring Sheet](#)" (provided in activity sheets)
- "[Make the Right Choice](#)" game: On index cards, write situations in which preschoolers have to make decisions about how they will behave or react. Let each child choose a card. Read or describe the situation to the class, and ask the children to describe what they would choose to do (provided in activity sheets).
- Make a paper sack puppet of Joshua. Type "Joshua said" and the memory verse on a piece of paper and glue this on the back of the puppet. The children will practice the memory verse by having Joshua say it.
- Print (or have the children write it if they can) the memory verse on a piece of white cardstock, one per child. Let the children draw a picture of their house with their family standing outside the house. If possible, laminate the pictures, then glue or tape ribbon to the back so the children can hang their pictures up at home as a reminder to put God first.
- "[Memory Verse Drawing Activity](#)" (provided in activity sheets)

1st-2nd Graders:

- "[Make the Right Choice](#)" game: On index cards, write situations in which 1st-2nd graders have to make decisions about how they will behave or react. Let each child choose a card. Read or describe the situation to the class, and ask the children to describe what they would choose to do (provided in activity sheets).
- Say a Bible character's name. Students must respond with another Bible name that begins with the **first** or **last** letter in the name you gave. Example: Teacher says, "Moses." Student responds with a name that begins with an "M" or an "S," like "Micah," "Samuel," or "Saul."
- Tic-Tac-Toe, Hang Man, or other games to play on the chalkboard, reviewing facts from this and previous lessons ([Tic-Tac-Toe Questions](#), board, and [instructions](#) provided in activity sheets).

3rd-4th Graders:

- “[Make the Right Choice](#)” game: On index cards, write situations in which 3rd-4th graders have to make decisions about how they will behave or react. Let each child choose a card. Read or describe the situation to the class, and ask the children to describe what they would choose to do (provided in activity sheets).
- “[Canaan Divided Labeling Activity](#)” (provided in activity sheets)
- Say a Bible character’s name. Students must respond with another Bible name that begins with the **first** or **last** letter in the name you gave. Example: Teacher says, “Moses.” Student responds with a name that begins with an “M” or an “S,” like “Micah,” “Samuel,” or “Saul.”
- Tic-Tac-Toe, Hang Man, or other games to play on the chalkboard, reviewing facts from this and previous lessons ([Tic-Tac-Toe Questions](#), board, and [instructions](#) provided in activity sheets).
- Have the kids read the following:
 - Joshua chapters 11-21. [This could be assigned Sunday, to be completed by Wednesday.] Print out copies of the Joshua 11-15 quiz from AP’s [Advanced Bible Reader](#) site for the children to take.
 - *Joshua: The Brave Leader*, by Carine Mackenzie, Christian Focus Publications

SONGS:

“THE DEATH OF MOSES”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “On Top of Old Smokey”)

(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“JOSHUA’S CHOICE”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “I Know the Lord Will Find a Way”)

(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“GOD’S LITTLE CHILDREN LOVE LIVING RIGHT!” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Sarah Richey

(Tune: “Mammy’s Little Baby Loves Short’nin’ Bread”)

God’s little children love living, living,
God’s little children love living right!

(REPEAT)

Get out the Bible, turn to the place,
Gonna talk about Jesus and His saving grace!
He is our Savior; He saved our race!
Gonna spread Jesus all over this place!

(REPEAT FIRST STANZA)

“FAITH, OBEDIENCE, AND AUTHORITY” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Sarah Richey
(Tune: “Farmer in the Dell”)

Believing in the Lord,
Believing in the Lord,
That’s what faith is,
Believing in the Lord.

Doing what He said,
Doing what He said,
That is obedience,
Doing what He said.

Telling what to do,
Telling what to do,
That is authority,
Telling what to do.

For a visual to go with the song: On a piece of poster board, glue a large, cutout of an “F,” “O,” and “A,” with the words “faith,” “obedience,” and “authority” written on the appropriate card. Beside the letters, write the verse of the song that corresponds to the letter.

“RAHAB AND THE SPIES”

Author: Jewel Kendrick
(Tune: “Yankee Doodle”)
(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“ISRAEL CROSSES JORDAN INTO CANAAN”

Author: Jewel Kendrick
(Tune: “Here We Are But Straying Pilgrims”)
(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“FALL OF JERICHO”

Author: Jewel Kendrick
(Tune: “Pop Goes the Weasel” verse only)
(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“WALLS OF JERICHO”

Author: Jewel Kendrick*
(Tune: “Jesus Loves the Little Children”)
(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“JERICHO’S FALLING” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “London Bridge is Falling Down”)

Jericho’s walls did all fall down,
All fall down, all fall down.
Jericho’s walls did all fall down,
When Israel walked around and ‘round.

Once a day for six whole days,
Six whole days, six whole days.
Once a day for six whole days,
With seven priests and the Ark always.

Seventh day, then seven times,
Seven times, seven times.
Seventh day, then seven times,
The priests their trumpets blew each time.

Then the people shouted loud,
Shouted loud, shouted loud.
Then the people shouted loud,
And the walls came tumbling down.

Vict’ry over Jericho,
Jericho, Jericho!
Vict’ry over Jericho,
Obey God, and He’ll bless you so!

“ACHAN”

Author: Jewel Kendrick

(Tune: “Oh, Dear, What Can the Matter Be?”)

(Words: See *Sing a Story: Volume I*, by Jewel Kendrick)

“ACHAN” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown*

(Tune: “Jesus Loves Me”)

Achan took a wedge of gold,
Silver, and a robe we’re told.
Buried them inside his tent,
About his business then he went.

CHORUS:

Yes, Jehovah noticed,
Yes, Jehovah noticed,
Yes, Jehovah noticed,
That Achan stole the gold.

When we steal or disobey,
Lie or fight or fail to pray,
Someone knows just what we do.
Where we are and why too.

(CHORUS)

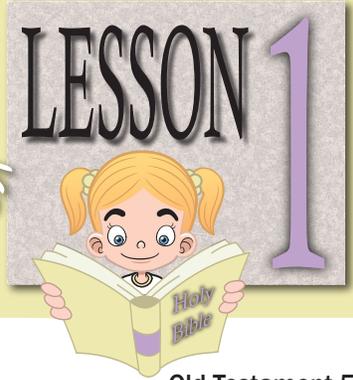
*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

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Deuteronomy-Joshua



Old Testament 5
Part 1: Israel's Cycle of Disobedience; The Time of the Judges

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Numbers 27:15-23; Deuteronomy 3:23-28; 34; Joshua 1-4; 6; 13-21

MEMORY WORK:

YOUNGER CHILDREN: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15c).

OLDER CHILDREN: "[C]hoose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15b).

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- [Map of the Twelve Tribes of Israel](#) (provided in maps section of curriculum site)
- **Pictures of the Bible, the cross, the Lord’s Supper, etc., which remind us of what God has done for us**
- **Pictures of idols and modern things that distract us from serving/obeying God**

PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must choose to obey God every day. I want to obey God, because of what He has done for me.

INTRODUCTION:

Review [O.T. 5 Bible Facts Flashcard](#) (provided under “O.T. 5 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson (see [O.T. 5 Review Questions](#) for example questions)
2. Tell the children the story of Caleb, Joshua’s friend who was also faithful to God. Emphasize his great faith throughout his life; he lived as Joshua had challenged all the Israelites in Joshua 24:15. As a slave, he had endured the same punishments and mistreatment as the other Israelites. But he chose to be a righteous man with a strong faith in God. He chose to look at things as God wants us to (from a spiritual perspective: Colossians 3:1-3; Romans 8:28-38). Caleb and Joshua were the only two of the original 12 spies who lived throughout the wilderness wanderings to see the Promised Land. Why? Because they chose to obey God no matter how hard that might have been. Caleb knew his final reward would be worth all the effort. God has promised us that our final reward (Heaven) will be worth all our efforts to be faithful and righteous, too. (**Review Memory Verse:** Joshua 24:15)

PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning’s lesson

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