

September 20, 2026

BIBLE LESSON

3



KEY VERSE: Joshua took the entire land, just as the LORD had directed Moses, Then the land had rest from war. (Joshua 11:23)



The Fighting Is Over

Lesson Scripture: [Joshua 11:16-23](#)

God's Word

16 So Joshua took this entire land: the hill country, all the Negev, the whole region of Goshen, the western foothills, the Arabah and the mountains of Israel with their foothills, **17** from Mount Halak, which rises toward Seir, to Baal Gad in the Valley of Lebanon below Mount Hermon. He captured all their kings and put them to death. **18** Joshua waged war against all these kings for a long time. **19** Except for the Hivites living in Gibeon, not one city made a treaty of peace with the Israelites, who took them all in battle. **20** For it was the LORD himself who hardened their hearts to wage war against Israel, so that he might destroy them totally, exterminating them without mercy, as the LORD had commanded Moses. **21** At that time Joshua went and destroyed the Anakites from the hill country: from Hebron, Debir and Anab, from all the hill country of Judah, and from all the hill country of Israel. Joshua totally destroyed them and their towns. **22** No Anakites were left in Israelite territory; only in Gaza, Gath and Ashdod did any survive. **23** So Joshua took the entire land, just as the LORD had directed Moses, and he gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal divisions. Then the land had rest from war.



Bible Story

The Fighting Is Over

Joshua 11:16-23

God had promised to give the people land and blessings—but to receive them, they had to face many difficult battles. These battles are well documented throughout the book of Joshua. During this time, Joshua had taken entire regions of the area as he was instructed. Joshua went to war against the kings for a long time and captured them all. God had hardened the hearts of the kings. Everyone, except the Hivites from Gibeon, refused to make peace treaties with Israel. However, the Lord gave the Israelites victory in battle against all of them.

During this time, Joshua went to war against the Anakites of the hill country and destroyed them. They were from the towns of Hebron, Debir, and Anab. Their territory included all the hill country of Judah and extended to include the entire hill country of Israel. Joshua destroyed the Anakite people and their towns. Not even one remained in the territory of Israel. However, some survived in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod.

Joshua conquered the entire land, just as the Lord told Moses. The Lord then gave the land to the Israelites as an inheritance, and Joshua divided the land among the tribes. Then the land had peace.

Instruction Woes

(Part 1)

For his birthday, William received one of the largest model airplane kits that he had ever seen. He was very excited to begin working on it. But William's father wanted him to wait until he had time to help him. The problem was that William's father was busy with a special work project and wouldn't have time to start on the kit for another week.

"I think I can put it together," William muttered to himself. "I've done this plenty of times. Just think how excited Dad will be when he gets done with his project and sees that I've already started working on the kit."

It didn't take long before William was confused and in over his head.

Exploring the Story

with Nicholas and Cornelius

Hello, friends! Nicholas and Cornelius here! We love traveling back to biblical times. Today's Bible story sparked our curiosity about the people who lived in Canaan. We discovered that the Canaanites, Amorites, Hittites, Jebusites, Hivites, Perizzites, and the Girgashites were descendants of Noah's grandson Canaan. God instructed Joshua to conquer the land and destroy them. Your teacher will show you a map of Joshua's conquest of Canaan. Point to the nations and cities mentioned in today's lesson.



Instruction Woes (Part 2)

That evening, William's father came into William's room with some great news: he had finished his project early. Imagine his surprise when he walked in to find William surrounded by pieces of the kit.

"What's going on?" his father asked. "I thought that I told you to wait for me before starting on the kit."

"I know that you did, Dad," William replied. "But I thought that I would surprise you. But the instructions were confusing, and I eventually lost them in the chaos. I guess I should have waited and followed your instructions after all."

"I hope you learned your lesson," his dad said. "Let's find those instructions."

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

One of the most important aspects of gaining victory is following instructions. Without God's clear instructions, the people of Israel would not have been victorious. And without clear guidance and instructions, William would not have completed his

model airplane. Have you ever disregarded

wise counsel or clear instructions in favor of pursuing your own path? How

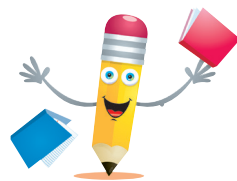
did it turn out for you? What lesson did you learn?



An "Unscrambled" Acrostic

An *acrostic* is a type of poem with a twist: each letter of a key word or phrase is either the first letter or the last letter (sometimes another letter) in a line to create a word or phrase. After you unscramble the scrambled-up words in the message below, use the unscrambled words to fill in the acrostic.

P						
E						
A						
C						
E						



Joshua went to war against and destroyed the Anakites who were from the hill NCUTYRO. They were from Hebron, Debir, and Anab. Their territory included all of the hill country of Judah and extended to include all of the hill country of Israel. Joshua completely destroyed the OPPLEE and their towns. The Anakites were destroyed and not one was left in the territory. While they were still in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod,

Joshua conquered the NTRIEE land, just as the Lord had directed Moses. Joshua gave the NDLA to the people of Israel as an inheritance according to the divisions of the tribes. Then the land had STRE from war.

September 27, 2026

BIBLE LESSON

4



KEY VERSE: [Rahab said to the spies,] “Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you.” (Joshua 2:12a)

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

Lesson Scriptures: [Joshua 2:8-13](#); [6:16-17](#)

God’s Word

8 Before the spies lay down for the night, she went up on the roof **9** and said to them, “I know that the LORD has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. **10** We have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. **11** When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below. **12** Now then, please swear to me by the LORD that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign **13** that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.”

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16 The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the army, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city! **17** The city and all that is in it are to be devoted to the LORD. Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent.”

Bible Story

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

Joshua 2:8-13; 6:16-17

Rahab owned a house that was built into the wall of Jericho. Two Israelite spies stayed at her house, and she hid them on her roof. Before the Israelite spies could lie down, Rahab told them that she knew the Lord had given them their land. Her people heard how the Lord had dried up the water of the Red Sea for them when they left Egypt. They also knew that the Israelites had destroyed the two Amorite kings, Sidon and Og. All that they heard about the Israelites' victories made them fearful of them—and convinced them that the Lord was God in the heavens and on the earth.

Rahab asked the Israelite spies to promise before the Lord to show kindness to her family, because she had shown kindness to them. Rahab told them to give her a sure sign that they would not harm her, her parents, her brothers and sisters, or their families.

Later, the Israelites surrounded Jericho's walls. For six days, seven priests and guards marched once around the city wall, blowing their trumpets. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times. On the seventh time around, they blew their trumpets, and Joshua commanded, "Shout! For the Lord has given you the city! Everything and everyone except Rahab and her family will be destroyed because she protected the Israelite spies."

Gift? What Gift? (Part 1)

"Gayla, what's wrong?" Gayla's best friend, Brittny, asked. "You seem down lately."

"I don't know," Gayla replied. "I've had a lot on my mind."

"What's going on? You aren't in trouble or something, are you?" Brittny asked.

"No. It's nothing like that," Gayla replied. "It's just that my Sunday school teacher was talking about how we all have gifts—and to be honest, I don't think that I have any gifts at all."

"You aren't serious, are you?!" Brittny exclaimed. "Of course you do! You're great at everything that you do. Go and talk to your mom about what you're feeling. I'll bet that she knows what to do."

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

Hello, all! Nicholas and Cornelius here! When we consider all the people in the Bible whom God used to accomplish His purposes, we realize that God does not select one type of person. In fact, God uses many different types of people. Some of them answered the call willingly, while others were more reluctant because they were not ready for the task. Let's discuss your gifts, talents, abilities, and what ministry service excites you.



Gift? What Gift? (Part 2)

Gayla decided to take Brittney's advice, and when her mother got home, she talked about what was worrying her.

"Of course you have a gift," her mother commented. "Your Sunday school teacher told you that God can use anybody for His purpose."

"But I'm just a kid," Gayla replied. "How can God use me?"

"You would be surprised," her mother said. "God sometimes uses an unlikely person to get the job done. Just remember that 'God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called.' That means that God will give you the strength and the courage to accomplish whatever He calls you to do. That's what it means to serve God."

Exploring the Story with Nicholas and Cornelius

How do we know when we are ready to answer God's call? All we have to do is listen with our hearts and be willing and ready to accept the task that God sets before us. We may never feel we are right for the task, but God never makes mistakes. As long as we remain faithful to God and listen closely to His instructions, we can't go wrong!



Point the Way

Starting at the given letter in the Puzzle Box below, follow the directional arrows to locate the letter to be written on the dash. When all the letters have been found, write the word (formed by the letters in order) on the line provided at the bottom to complete the phrase from today's lesson. (Example: G $\uparrow \uparrow \leftarrow$ = F)



1. Y $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ = ____

4. J $\uparrow \leftarrow \uparrow$ = ____

2. D $\uparrow \uparrow \rightarrow$ = ____

5. V $\downarrow \downarrow \leftarrow$ = ____

3. F $\rightarrow \uparrow \leftarrow$ = ____

6. J $\leftarrow \leftarrow \leftarrow$ = ____

"Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be _____ because she hid spies we sent."

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