

The Fighting Is Over

September 20, 2026—Lesson 3

Background Scriptures: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-16

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 11:16-23

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

Faith Block: God will help us obey Him!

Lesson Objective: The children will hear that God helped Joshua trust and obey Him, and how God led the people to possess the Promised Land.

Materials Needed: *Picture Lesson Cards*, Bible, area rugs, crayons, markers, art supplies, stickers, blocks, books, other toddler toys, an electronic mobile device with a large viewing screen and Wi-Fi access, copy paper, foam building blocks, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ Prior to class, locate an online photo of a city in a valley surrounded by mountains. Copy and print it out or present the online photo.

Welcome: Refer to page 6 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Opening Worship and Activity: Refer to page 6 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: Let's use blocks to build tall mountains and houses in the low valleys.

Show an online or paper photo and illustrate with your hands how mountains are tall and valleys are low.) As the children begin building, assist some with creating high mountains and others with creating low valleys. As they work, have them say, "God keeps His promises!"

B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

The Bible Story: Refer to page 6 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Hold up the lesson 3 Picture Lesson Card for all the children to see. Point to the pictures and see if the children can name the images shown. Assist as needed.

Say: Today, we will hear about how God helped the Israelites take the Promised Land. (*As you read about the land that Joshua conquered, have the children point to their mountain and valley blocks.*)

The Fighting Is Over

Joshua was a brave leader who loved and obeyed God. God promised the land of Canaan to Joshua and the people.

However, it would not be easy for them to take the land. But God was with them and would help them.

Then, God told Joshua that it was time to take the land. Joshua obeyed God. Joshua led the people and took the entire land, including the valleys, mountains, and cities. God helped the people win and kept them safe. The land was given to God's people as a gift. Then, the fighting was over, and there was peace.

C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 6 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

"God Gave Rest" Activity: Review the lesson with the children, reminding them that when the fighting was over, God gave the people rest. Allow the children to lay their heads down to rest, singing "Jesus Loves Me" quietly.

☺ **Words from Pax the Penguin:** Refer to page 6 of this teacher's guide for instructions. Present Pax to the class. The script for Pax appears below.

Pax: Good morning, girls and boys! Did you know that God keeps His promises? (*Pause for responses.*) Do we need to obey God? (*Pause for responses.*) God will help us to obey Him. Repeat after me: "Dear God (*pause*), help me obey You!" Amen! Good job, boys and girls!

☺ **Bible Story Application:** Refer to the lesson 3 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the sing-along "Joshua Fought Battles."

D CLOSING BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session.

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

September 27, 2026—Lesson 4

Background Scriptures: Joshua 2; 6:16-25; Matthew 1:5; James 2:25; Hebrews 11:31**Lesson Scriptures:** Joshua 2:8-13; 6:16-17**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*)**Faith Block:** God uses anyone willing to help.**Lesson Objective:** The children will hear how Rahab helped God’s spies and how He helped Rahab.**Materials Needed:** *Picture Lesson Cards*, Bible, area rugs, crayons, markers, art supplies, stickers, blocks, books, other toddler toys, an electronic mobile device with Wi-Fi access, copy paper, an action figure for each child, a coloring sheet of Rahab hiding the spies, a towel or small blanket, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ Prior to class, (1) hide several action figures under a towel or small blanket. (2) Make a copy of the coloring sheet for each child.

Welcome: Refer to page 6 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.**Opening Worship and Activity:** Refer to page 6 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.**Say:** When we help others, God helps us. A woman from Jericho helped hide Joshua’s spies! There are some hidden spies in our class, like the one I am holding. (*Show the children an action figure.*) See if you can find them.**“Hide and Seek” Spy Game:** Allow time for the children to find the hidden action figures. After the action figures are found, remind the children that God uses anyone willing to help Him.**B BIBLE STORY BLOCK****The Bible Story:** Refer to page 6 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Hold up the lesson 4 Picture Lesson Card for all the children to see. Point to the pictures and see if the children can name the images shown. Assist as needed.

Say: Today, we will hear how Rahab was a helper that you would not think would do it. But she did a great job.**Rahab—an Unlikely Ally**Rahab was from Jericho. She lived in a big house. Joshua sent two men to *spy on* (watch secretly) Jericho.

When the men needed a place to hide, Rahab said, “I will help.” She knew God was good to the Israelite people and

helped them win battles. The people of Jericho were afraid of the Israelite people. Rahab asked the two men who were spies to keep her family safe.

A few days later, the Israelite people walked around the wall of Jericho seven times and shouted! The walls fell, and Joshua took over the city! But God kept Rahab and her family safe.

C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 6 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Rahab Helps the Spies: Give each child a coloring page of Rahab helping the spies and crayons/coloring pencils. As the students color, review the lesson, reminding them that Rahab was not one of God’s children, but she helped the spies anyway. And God helped her.☺ **Words from Pax the Penguin:** Refer to page 6 of this teacher’s guide for instructions. Present Pax to the class. The script for Pax appears below.**Pax:** Good morning, girls and boys! Did you know that you can help God’s people? (*Pause for responses.*) Can you think of ways to help God’s people? (*Pause for responses.*) Let’s help someone today! Repeat after me: “Dear God (*pause*), help me help others!” Amen! Good job, boys and girls!☺ **Bible Story Application:** Refer to the lesson 4 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the action song “Rahab Will Keep Us Safe.”**D CLOSING BLOCK**

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session.

The Fighting Is Over

September 20, 2026—Lesson 3

Background Scriptures: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-16

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 11:16-23

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

Faith Block: I will follow God's instructions!

Lesson Objective: The children will hear a story explaining how Joshua followed God's instructions and went to war to gain peace in the land.

Materials Needed: *Preschool* student books, Bible (NIV translation), star-shaped stickers, pencils, crayons or coloring pencils, markers, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

Welcome: Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Opening Worship and Activity: Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Briefly talk about the importance of following instructions. Explain that in this lesson, God gave Joshua instructions on how to protect and defend His people. Joshua listened to God's instructions, and the people of God listened to Joshua's instructions.

Say: Let's play a listening game called "Joshua Says." I will be "Joshua" and give commands for you to follow. You must only follow commands that begin with the words "Joshua says." For example, if I say, "Joshua says, 'Touch your nose,'" everyone should touch their noses. If I give a command without saying "Joshua says," you must NOT follow that command. There is no elimination of players in this game. You can try again if you get it wrong. (*Lead the class to play several rounds of the game.*)

B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: Today, you will hear that God's people were being attacked. God gave Joshua instructions on how to protect the people. What do you think those instructions were? (*Pause for responses.*) Let's listen carefully to the Bible story to find out.

The Bible Story: The Fighting Is Over

God's people had settled into their new homeland. But they were troubled by the surrounding kingdoms, who wanted

them to leave. So, God instructed Joshua to take an army and attack the kings and kingdoms.

God guided Joshua in battle, and his army had victory wherever they went. They fought long and hard until they captured and killed all their enemies. Only one town agreed to peace.

It is only because Joshua followed God's instructions that all fighting was now over! Finally, there was peace in the land. And the land was divided among God's people.

Bible Story Application: Refer to the lesson 3 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the sing-along "Joshua Fought Battles."

☺**Words from Pax the Penguin:** If you purchased Pax the Penguin, refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for instructions on presentation. Use the script printed in the *Early Elementary* teacher book for lesson 3 (*page 40*).

C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

A "Following Directions" Worksheet: Have the children complete the activity together as a class. Read each instruction aloud and allow the class to identify the object and complete the instructions. Review their work following each set of instructions.

Joshua Wins the Battle: Have the children color the Bible story picture. As they color, review the Bible story with them.

D CLOSING BLOCK

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher's guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

September 27, 2026—Lesson 4

Background Scriptures: Joshua 2; 6:16-25; Matthew 1:5; James 2:25; Hebrews 11:31

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

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*)

Faith Block: I can help others!

Lesson Objective: The children will discover that helping others can be a blessing.

Materials Needed: *Preschool* student books, Bible (NIV translation), pencils, crayons, coloring pencils, markers, a large lightweight blanket, white card stock, scissors, glue sticks, brad fasteners, a hole puncher, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

Welcome: Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Opening Worship and Activity: Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Briefly talk about ways that the children can help their families. Explain that in today’s lesson, a woman helped two men by hiding them.

Say: Let’s play a hiding game called “Who Is Where?”

Have the children cover their eyes. Choose two children to stand quietly behind a blanket. Next, ask the rest of the class to open their eyes and guess where the hidden children are. Lift the blanket to reveal the hidden children. Repeat this game until everyone has had a turn being hidden. Then, transition to the Bible story.

B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: Let’s listen carefully to the Bible story to find out where the woman hid the men.

The Bible Story: Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

Joshua sent spies to Jericho. The men who lived in Jericho began searching for them. A woman from Jericho named Rahab helped the spies hide underneath *flax* (straw) on her roof (see Joshua 2:6, 8).

Rahab realized Jericho would fall because Joshua’s army was led by God. She asked the spies to promise protection for her family when the city was attacked.

God’s people marched around Jericho’s walls. On the seventh day, and on the seventh time around, Joshua commanded the people to shout and attack the city! When the city was attacked, only Rahab and her family were allowed to live.

Bible Story Application: Refer to the lesson 4 Bible Story Application (*page 61*) and teach the children the action song “Rahab Will Keep Us Safe.”

☺ **Words from Pax the Penguin:** If you purchased Pax the Penguin, refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. Use the script printed in the *Early Elementary* teacher book for lesson 4 (*page 42*).

C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Rahab’s Flax Bundles: Have the children complete the activity. As they work, instruct them to count the flax bundles that look the same. Then, have them write the number on the line under the matching picture.

Answers: small bundle—3; large bundle—4

Rahab—God’s Helper: Have the children color the Bible story picture. As they color, review the Bible story.

📄 **Make a “Rahab Hides the Spies” Rooftop:** Refer to the reproducible activity (*page 65*) and, using white card stock, make a copy of the template for each child in your class. Pass out the copies and have the children color Rahab’s house and the images. Help them cut out the house and images. Place the Rahab image on the rooftop, aligning the perforated circle on the roof with the circle on the dress. Punch a brad fastener through the dress and house and fasten it. Rahab will be able to move. Next, glue the image of the two spies on the right side of the rooftop.

D CLOSING BLOCK

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

The Fighting Is Over

September 20, 2026—Lesson 3

Background Scriptures: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-16

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 11:16-23

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

Faith Block: God gives us victory!

Lesson Objective: The children will discover that God gave the Israelites a big task and guided them to completion and victory.

Materials Needed: *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), happy-face stickers, reward stickers, religious stickers, pencils, crayons, coloring pencils, markers, glue sticks, a page of peace symbol signs, safety scissors, white copy paper, a roll of brown kraft paper, an electronic mobile/media device with Wi-Fi access, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see the hand puppet placed on or taken off the puppeteer's hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children's view.

✂ Prior to class, access black-and-white clip-art images that represent peace. Please copy and paste them into a Word document and print out two or three copies.

Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Inform the children that in today's lesson, God gave the people the victory.

Say: Everyone likes being a winner. Today, we will hear about Israel's victory as they followed Joshua. To celebrate with them, let's make a classroom victory banner. Then, we will carry it as we march to the song "Victory Is Mine," sung by Dorothy Norwood (found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iAsmTkbnK0U>).

Place a roll of kraft paper, markers, crayons, stickers, and the pages of peace clip-art images on a table. Cut kraft paper to about four feet wide. Write "God Gives Us VICTORY!" in large letters in the center of the banner.

Instruct the students to color the clip-art images and cut them out. Then, decorate the banner, using stickers, clip-art images, art supplies, drawings, hand tracing, and words expressing thanksgiving to God! Have each student sign the banner. When complete, access "Victory Is Mine" and have two volunteers hold the banner as the remaining students march behind them. Post the banner on the wall or whiteboard.

B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher's guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: Chasing people off their land seems cruel. But it is important to note that God keeps His promises. God made a promise to Abraham long before Joshua's time to give him and his *descendants*—or future Israelite family and God's chosen people—the Promised Land (see Genesis 12:1-3; 15:18-21).

The Bible Story

The Fighting Is Over

God promised His people a new home. But the people who lived there had to move out. God gave Joshua and his army the job to move them out. God promised to be with them. This was a big job, and it took a long time. Joshua and his army travelled throughout the land, winning many battles. God helped them defeat all the kings and take over the whole land.

At last, the fighting was over. Joshua gave the land to the people of Israel as a gift. And there was peace in the land.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: What did God promise the Israelite people? (*A new*

home.) Which leader was assigned to move the people from the land? (*Joshua.*) What happened when Joshua and the Israelites went to battle? (*God gave them victory, and they took over the entire land.*) What gift did the Israelite people receive? (*They received land to live on.*) What job has God given you that was hard, but God sent help so you could succeed? (*Responses will vary.*)

Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 3 Bible Story Application (page 61) and teach the children the sing-along “Joshua Fought Battles.”

☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

Pax: (*enters, carrying reward stickers*) Hello, boys and girls.

Teacher: Hello, Pax. How are you? What’s with the stickers?

Pax: You haven’t heard? Remember when the church asked each class to come up with a project that would help the community—and your class decided to collect food for snacks for the after-school program? All the projects were good, but your class met the greatest need.

Teacher: Wow, Pax, that is great! We always want to be of help to others, but sometimes we do not quite know what others need. So, we prayed about it and decided to do the snack bags.

Pax: Not to worry! There were so many needs . . . from food to clothes to school supplies. The truth is, everything was needed, so we are all winners. How does it feel to be winners, boys and girls? (*Pause for responses.*) Who would like to help me hand out reward stickers? (*Pause for responses and action.*)

Pax: Great job, boys and girls. Continue to trust God to give you victory in whatever you do! See you next week.

STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Victory Flag

After reading the instructions in the student book aloud, have the students trace and decorate the flag. Read the message together. As they work, discuss areas in their lives in which they learned to do something new. Praise God for His help and guidance.

“No More Fighting” Hidden Message

After reading the instructions to the students, allow them to find the letter that matches the number and write it on each line above the number. Assist as needed. When they finish, review their answers and read the message aloud.

Decoded Message: After the fighting was over, there was peace in the land.

D CLOSING BLOCK

Say: God gave the Israelites a big job to do. With Joshua’s leadership, they were able to remove the people who did not want peace from the land that God promised to the Israelite people. Because Joshua followed God’s instructions, God gave him victory in every battle. Now they could rest from their fighting and have peace for many years.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

Pray: Dear God, thank You for trusting us to complete the big jobs You give us to do. And thank You for giving us the help we need to do it. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

NOTES

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

September 27, 2026—Lesson 4

Background Scriptures: Joshua 2; 6:16-25; Matthew 1:5; James 2:25; Hebrews 11:31

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

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*)

Faith Block: God rewards faith and kindness!

Lesson Objective: The children will discover that Rahab acted by *faith* (belief and trust) in God when she helped the spies and was rewarded by God.

Materials Needed: *Early Elementary* student books, Bibles (NIV translation), happy-face stickers, reward stickers, religious stickers, pencils, crayons, coloring pencils, markers, safety scissors, copy paper, an electronic mobile/media device with Wi-Fi access, (**optional:** Pax the Penguin [or some other hand puppet]).

* * * * *

A BEGINNING BLOCK

✂ If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), decide whether you or someone else will be the puppeteer. It is important that the children not see the hand puppet placed on or taken off the puppeteer’s hand; this must be done discreetly and out of the children’s view.

✂ Prior to class, search the Internet and find pictures of tools that spies or private detectives would commonly use (hidden cameras, binoculars, hidden camera detectors, fingerprint equipment, maps, telescopes, etc.). Make a 5x7-inch copy of each and place them on a table or board.

Welcome

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Opening Worship and Activity

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: Have you ever played the game “I Spy”? It is the game when you have to correctly guess an object chosen by the “spy” using only the clues the spy gives. The more creative and trickier the spy is, the more difficult the game gets. What tools are needed to be a good spy?

Show the pictures that you printed before class and let the children pick the items that they might use. Then, explain the “I Spy” game rules and play several rounds.

B BIBLE STORY BLOCK

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Say: In today’s Bible story, Joshua sent two Israelite spies to scout out the land of Jericho. Jericho was part of the Promised Land. Jericho had a huge wall around the city. The people of Jericho had the wall shut up tight because they were afraid of God’s power, which was with the Israelite people. But Rahab, a woman from Jericho, had a house. She had *faith* (belief and trust) in God’s power and showed kindness by hiding the spies on her roof.

The Bible Story

Rahab—an Unlikely Ally

Rahab was from Jericho. She hid two Israelite spies on her rooftop. Rahab told the spies that the people of Jericho had heard how God made a dry path through the Red Sea so the Israelites could cross over. Rahab and the people believed in God’s power, and they were afraid. Rahab asked the spies to keep her family safe from harm.

Later, the Israelites followed God’s instructions and marched the seventh time around the walls of Jericho. When the priests blew their trumpets, the army shouted! God gave Joshua and the Israelites the city of Jericho, and they kept Rahab and her family safe from getting killed.

After reviewing the story, ask the following questions: Who was Rahab? (*She was a woman from Jericho who hid the Israelite spies.*) What did Rahab tell the spies about God? (*She said that the people of Jericho heard about God’s power at the Red Sea and were afraid. She and the people believed in God’s power.*) What favor did Rahab ask of the spies? (*To spare herself and her family.*) What did God do later after the Israelites marched around Jericho’s wall for the seventh time and shouted? (*God gave the Israelites the city of Jericho, but they spared Rahab and her family.*)

Bible Story Application

Refer to the lesson 4 Bible Story Application (page 61) and teach the children the action song “Rahab Will Keep Us Safe.”

☺ Words from Pax the Penguin

If you purchased Pax the Penguin (or some other hand puppet), refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on presentation. The script for Pax appears below.

Teacher: Welcome, Pax. You are right on time! Today, we heard how God rewarded Rahab and her family because of her kindness in hiding the spies from the Jericho soldiers. Pax, have you ever received a reward for doing something kind?

Pax: Yes! One time, my friend Benny lost his wallet at the park. He was sad because in his wallet he had his favorite picture from the day his family went to the amusement park. I found it and returned it to him, and Benny’s dad gave me a dollar!

Teacher: Oh, that is great. God loves to reward His children for showing kindness. Now, class, how many of you have received awards for showing kindness? (*Pause for the children to respond.*)

Pax: Great job, everyone! Showing kindness is part of God’s plan for our lives. Let’s continue to show kindness even if no one rewards us. The best reward is showing God’s love. See you next week!

C STACKS OF FUN

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for general instructions for this section.

Retell the Rahab Story

Read the instructions in the student book to the class. Then, read each scenario aloud. Instruct the students to put the events in the order they occurred in today’s Bible story. Assist as needed. Then, review their responses aloud.

Answers: (A) 3; (B) 4; (C) 1; (D) 2; (E) 5

What Is Different?

Instruct the students to look at the two versions of the Bible story picture from today’s lesson. Relay that picture B has some differences. Have them circle anything they see that is different. When they finish, review the answers. (Inform them that they are looking for seven differences.)

Differences in Picture B: airplane in sky; color of Rahab’s hair now white; donkey on the hills in background; lantern sitting on wall; man’s blanket now blue; man’s sandals now orange; Bible now sitting on big blanket

D CLOSING BLOCK

Say: Our faith and kindness are very important to God. Faith is trusting and believing who God is. Rahab heard about God and believed. People who have strong faith make God happy. May we always make God happy with our faith and by showing kindness to others.

Refer to page 7 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on what to do prior to and during the closing prayer.

Pray: Dear God, thank You for Your kindness to us. Help us to be like You and be kind to everyone. Thank You for rewarding us when we are faithful and kind. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

Refer to pages 7-8 of this teacher’s guide for instructions on how to close out the session and engage the children until parents/guardians arrive.

NOTES