

August 27th, 2023
Jericho Walls & Faith to Move Mountains
Joshua 6:1-17

Open with prayer

**Psalm - 143. For extra reading*

Read for insight into the scripture

What does faith actually look like? Faith is trusting and believing that God is who He says He is and is faithful to do what He says He will do - and living this out.

Jericho was on watch because the Israelites were known as a people who could wage war. Jericho was waiting for a battle and was likely a military outpost that was used to fighting. This is not what they got. Joshua is the leader of Israel's army and his directions from God were so out of "left field" for what an army would do.

Let's dig into this story together.

Read Joshua 6:1-17

- ***What stands out to you in this section of scripture?***
- ***Branden talked about how crazy the directions that the Lord gave Joshua were. Where in this story do you see Joshua show tremendous faith? Who else in this story shows faith? How?***
- ***When the people marched around Jericho, they probably looked extremely foolish. But what happened?***
- ***Whose battle was this really? Why do you think that God led in this way?***
 - I believe that God wanted them to remember that God was in charge. This victory was important to fulfill the promise that God made to the Israelites hundreds of years earlier. **What can happen to our faith when we think everything depends on us?**

The Hebrew people inevitably were wondering what the point of this marching was; probably, they started asking questions from the moment they started walking till the walls came tumbling down...A WEEK LATER. They are asking "what is the point and the purpose of this, because nothing appears to be happening." When we take steps in faith to do something that we feel like God is asking us to do, we are likely to ask the same question, "What is the point and purpose of this?" These are times when we need to be encouraged and remember that there is always a bigger story happening and we can't see all the details. These moments are faith building.

- ***We have a tendency to ask God for a miracle before we step in obedience. Can you share a time when you kept taking the next step of obedience when you had no idea how it would turn out?***

- *How has God blessed you or surprised you when you followed His prompting without all the answers?*
 - *Read Matthew 7:20 - How much faith do we need to have?*
 - *Read 1 Corinthians 1:27*
- If this verse is true, what does it say about God? He doesn't work like everyone else, right?! Discuss this.*

Practice for this week:

Set time aside with an open heart to see if there is any area in your life that the Lord may be asking you to take a step of obedience in something that you have been opposed to walking in. What do you think the next step that you are supposed to take is?

Prayer Request and closing Prayer

Ask if anyone has any prayers they would like to add to our prayer team, report back to Sarah. sarah@thechapelatseaside.com