

LESSON 9

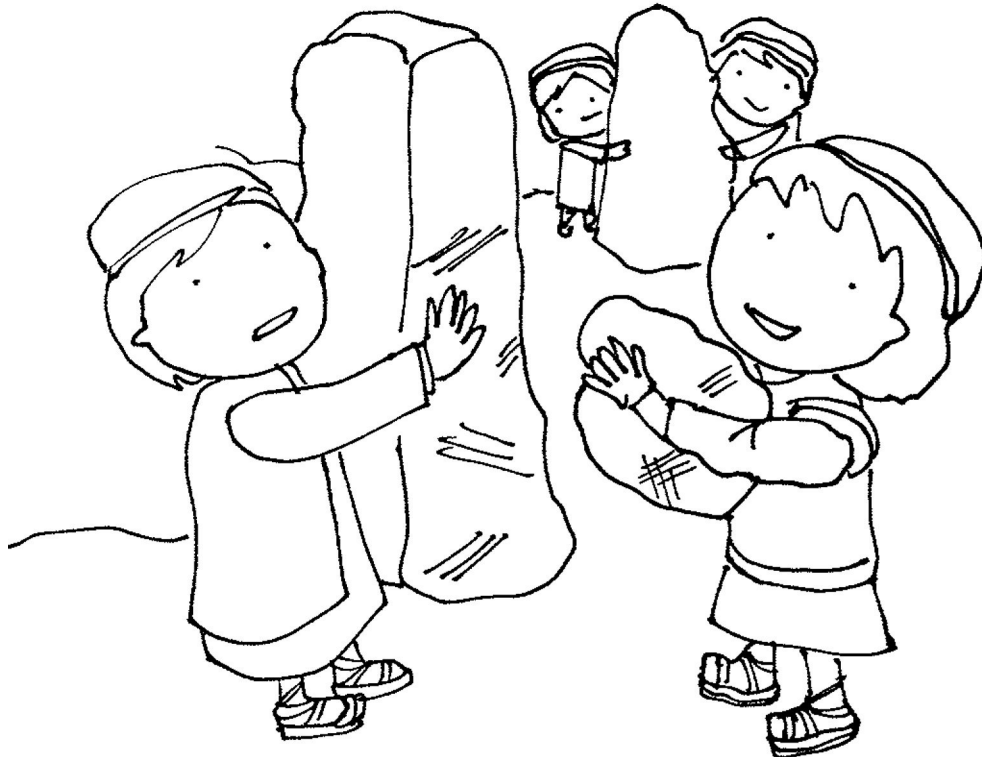
JOSHUA, RAHAB, AND CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER

Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet: Joshua, Rahab, and Crossing the Jordan River
- Life Application Worksheet #1: A Testimony
- Life Application Worksheet #2, Pages 1 and 2: Real-Life Scenarios
- Homework

JOSHUA, RAHAB, AND CROSSING THE JORDAN RIVER

1. "Be _____ and of good _____" (Josh 1:6-7, 9).
2. These tribes dwelt on the east of the Jordan: _____, _____, and _____.
3. "And as soon as we _____ these things, our _____; neither did there remain any more _____ in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is _____ in _____ and on _____" (Josh 2:11).
4. " _____ yourselves, for _____ the Lord will do _____ among you" (Josh 3:6).
5. One set of memorial stones was set up at _____; the other was set up in the middle of the _____.



A Testimony

The testimony is about a brother's reflection on his life in college. Through this testimony, we can learn the importance of relying on God to build up the courage to stand firm in our faith. We too can overcome tempting situations! Be strong and courageous!

From the beginning of college, I was a student-athlete on an NCAA varsity sport team and an intercollegiate club sport team. After two years, I decided it would be better to concentrate on academics, so I relinquished my status with the NCAA. However, I continued to participate on the club sport team, since practices and tournaments were not as time-consuming. During sport team parties, I would often find myself in situations where alcohol was easily accessible. In such situations, there are at least two obstacles to overcome. The first is your own desire to drink. The second is the pressure from your friends or peers to drink.

Concerning one's own desire to drink, I am blessed in not having a taste for alcohol, and even find the taste of ethanol or yeast fermentation unpleasant. Thus, I never found the idea of drinking that appealing. However, for others who do not see eye-to-eye with me on this, the question then becomes, "What is the purpose of drinking?" "All things are lawful for me, but not all things are helpful; all things are lawful for me, but not all things edify" (1 Cor 10:23). However, many people point out that Christ drank wine too, and thus was called a winebibber when He came eating and drinking (Lk 7:33-34). Additionally, the Bible rebukes drunkenness but not the consumption of alcohol. In understanding this, one must come to see that drunkenness is not a sudden onset that occurs after consuming a certain amount of alcohol, but a gradual process, starting with drinking small amounts. Therefore, preventing drunkenness depends on each individual's self-control and awareness of what he/she is drinking. As we have been taught, the best way not to fall into temptation is to never encounter it in the first place. Following this reasoning, the best way not to mistakenly get drunk is not to drink in the first place.

Concerning the peer pressure to drink, I was not fortunate enough to be on athletic teams where my teammates felt the same way as I did. Most people, I think, are not fortunate in this regard. However, from my experience, people are much more understanding than we expect. At the beginning of my first semester, both teams were having parties to welcome the freshmen. I was initially anxious about what would happen when I told everyone that I don't drink. Of course, I thought that they would make me the topic of many jokes for a long time, but I found the opposite to be true. From their reactions, I found most of them to be very understanding. The most challenging step was gathering the courage to stand firm instead of trying to sneak by with drinking a little bit or just completely folding. It also helps to befriend other students who feel the same way as you about drinking. I have found this to be a very effective way of avoiding the temptation to drink.



However, no matter what the circumstances are, we must always remember that it is God's strength on which we must rely. Alone, we have no power to overcome temptations or stand firm in our beliefs. It is only by the grace of God that He strengthens us.

Questions for Discussion

1. How was this brother able to be "strong and courageous" and stand up for his faith?

2. Have you been in a similar situation, where you were pressured to do something that was wrong? How did you respond?

Real-Life Scenarios

Jimmy is having a terrific start to the new school year as a 5th grader. He's made a new group of friends. Jason, in particular, is a lot of fun to sit with at lunchtime. Jason always has the funniest jokes and stories to share. On several occasions, Jimmy is so engrossed in chatting with Jason that he accidentally forgets to say grace before lunch. Without realizing it, Jimmy gradually gets used to not saying grace. When he does remember, he is surprised at how self-conscious he feels about it! His solution is to blink a long blink and hurriedly say a short prayer. Jimmy doesn't want his new friends seated around him to notice. He knows that if they did, they'd ask what he is doing and why. Then, he'd have to explain all sorts of things such as the fact that—that he is a Christian and the reason why he needs to say grace. He doesn't want to be different from everyone else. Nobody he knows at school actually prays or says grace before they eat. So, why should he?



Questions for Discussion

1. How can Jimmy be “strong and courageous” to say grace before lunch at school?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?

Lori is worried. Normally, she does well on math tests, but today, she does not feel so confident. Lori didn't study much last night for today's big test. Now, she is struggling a bit, unsure of how to answer some of the questions on the test. She looks up at the clock, hoping that the answers will come to her, when something unusual happens. Another teacher comes into the classroom and asks to talk to Lori's teacher. The two teachers talk for a very short time, but to Lori's surprise, several students immediately take advantage of the situation by looking at others' tests papers for answers. Lori cannot believe her eyes! People are cheating on this test! What's more amazing is that the teacher does not seem to notice at all! Suddenly, Lori feels an urge to cheat, too. She knows it's wrong, but she feels desperate today. She reasons that she'll do it just this once. Besides, she's not alone, as quite a few of her classmates are cheating. It's only fair, isn't it?



Questions for Discussion

1. How can Lori be “strong and courageous” to resist the urge to cheat on the test?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you be “strong and of good courage”?

For three weeks, Traci worked hard to complete all her chores at home so that she could get a big allowance. She'd been saving up to buy a special watch that every 6th grader seemed to want. When her mother gave her the money, Traci was thrilled. With the latest allowance money, she had just enough to buy the watch! But that was only if she skipped tithing. For a brief moment, the idea of not giving tithe this time crossed her mind. Traci was entertaining the thought when her mother abruptly interrupted it. "Don't forget to give tithe with your money," Traci's mother said while patting her gently on the shoulder. "And remember to thank God for the money and grace in your life," she continued. Yes, Traci's parents had taught her about giving a tenth of everything to God. She'd always done it because it was the right thing to do. But what struck a wrong chord this time was her mother's reminder to remember God's grace. "I worked really hard for this money," Traci thought to herself. "It was my hard work, not God's grace, which produced this money!" Traci felt a little irritated that her mother didn't give Traci any credit for earning the money. She wondered to herself, "What does God's grace have to do with this?"



Questions for Discussion

1. Did God's grace play a role in Traci getting her allowance money? What should Traci be thankful for in her life?
2. Have you ever been in a similar situation? How did you respond? What can help you recognize and remember God's grace in your life?

Sam can't remember a time when he wasn't a Christian. He was baptized as an infant and church has always been a part of his life. Every week, he attends church services and RE classes. He reads the Bible and does his homework. He prays, too, though not for a long time. Sam knows that he should pray for the Holy Spirit and he does. But just like everything else related to church, Sam seems to do it out of habit rather than a real, self-driven desire. Yes, he knows that a Christian needs to have the Holy Spirit to go to heaven, but he can't muster a sense of urgency to pray for it. "There are so many prayer sessions and chances to pray for the Holy Spirit," Sam thinks to himself. "I have plenty of time and besides, I'm so young. I know that I will receive the Holy Spirit someday." Then something happened that completely changed his view. One day, his mother received a phone call. It was his best friend's mother. "Jack is in a really bad car accident," Jack's mother sobbed. Shortly after, Jack's mother dropped off Jack's younger sister at Sam's house before she went to the hospital. Sam later found out that Jack was with his father and a drunk driver hit the side of the car where Jack was sitting. Jack nearly died. It took months for him to get better. Only then did Sam realize that even kids could die suddenly. Sam still doesn't understand what death means, not completely. But he knows that once someone dies, s/he no longer has a chance to live or pray for the Holy Spirit. That means s/he no longer has the chance to go to heaven. After what happened with Jack, Sam no longer prays for the Holy Spirit out of habit only. He knows that he needs to grasp every chance to pray, because his opportunity to go to heaven is at stake.



Questions for Discussion

1. What does it mean to you to "grasp the opportunity to be saved"?
2. Have you been in a similar situation as Sam, going to church or praying out of habit instead of a self-driven desire? What helped Sam change his view? What can help you "grasp the opportunity to be saved"?

E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 9—Joshua, Rahab, and Crossing the Jordan River

Homework Assignment

Name: _____ Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

Bible Reading: Please put a check mark in the space when you complete the reading each day.

Prayer: Please put a check mark in the space on the days you prayed to God.

What I Learned from the Bible This Week

1. _____

2. _____

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Read							
Pray							

Memory Verse

Please write down this week's memory verse. **(Joshua 1:7a)**

Short Answer

1. Compare and contrast the crossing of the Red Sea (Ex 14) with the crossing of the Jordan River (Josh 3). Who was leading them each time?

2. What did the leaders say before the miracle happened? (Ex 14:13-14; Josh 3:5)

3. How did the sea part or the river stop flowing—what were the actions that took place?

4. Which event required more faith of the people? Why?

5. What does this tell us about growing in our faith?