

# LESSON 10

## CONQUERING THE CITIES OF JERICO AND AI

### Worksheets

- Bible Discovery Worksheet: Conquering the Cities of Jericho and Ai
- Life Application Worksheet #1, Pages 1 and 2: The Four Stages of Sinning
- Life Application Worksheet #2: Breaking the Cycle of Sin
- Homework

## CONQUERING THE CITIES OF JERICO AND AI

### 1. Jericho Is Defeated

"You shall \_\_\_\_\_ around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city \_\_\_\_\_. This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the \_\_\_\_\_ day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the \_\_\_\_\_."

### 2. The Israelites Are Defeated at Ai

"Get up, \_\_\_\_\_ the people, and say, 'Sanctify yourselves for tomorrow, because thus says the LORD God of Israel: "There is an \_\_\_\_\_ thing in your midst, O Israel; you cannot stand before your \_\_\_\_\_ until you \_\_\_\_\_ the accursed thing from among you.'"

### 3. Achan Is Punished for His Sin

"And Achan answered Joshua and said, 'Indeed I have \_\_\_\_\_ against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: When I \_\_\_\_\_ among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I \_\_\_\_\_ them and \_\_\_\_\_ them. And there they are, \_\_\_\_\_ in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it.'"

### 4. The Israelites Defeat the City of Ai

"Now the Lord said to Joshua: 'Do not be \_\_\_\_\_, nor be dismayed; take \_\_\_\_\_ the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land. And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. Lay an \_\_\_\_\_ for the city behind it.'"

### The Battle of Ai

Please draw a simple map of the Battle of Ai. Write down the cities of **Bethel** and **Ai** on the map.

According to God's instruction in Joshua 8:2, Joshua set an ambush by dividing his troops into three groups.

- The first group was sent by night to hide just west of the city, between Bethel and Ai. They would rush in and seize it when the soldiers left to join the main battle.
- The second group camped on the north side of the city.
- The third group was a decoy group led by Joshua, meant to draw the soldiers of Ai away from the city.

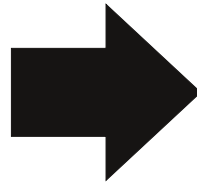
### The Four Stages of Sinning

Based on Achan's confession, let us analyze how we may typically fall into temptation and sin against God. It looks something like this:

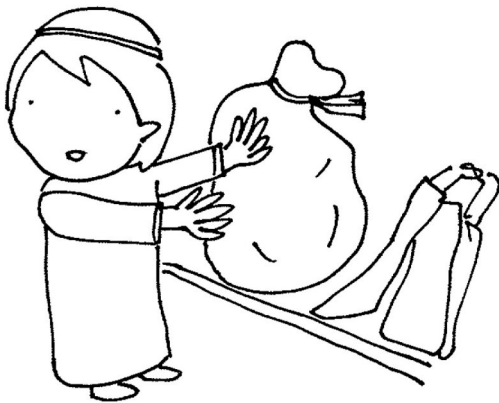
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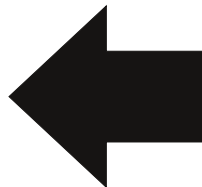
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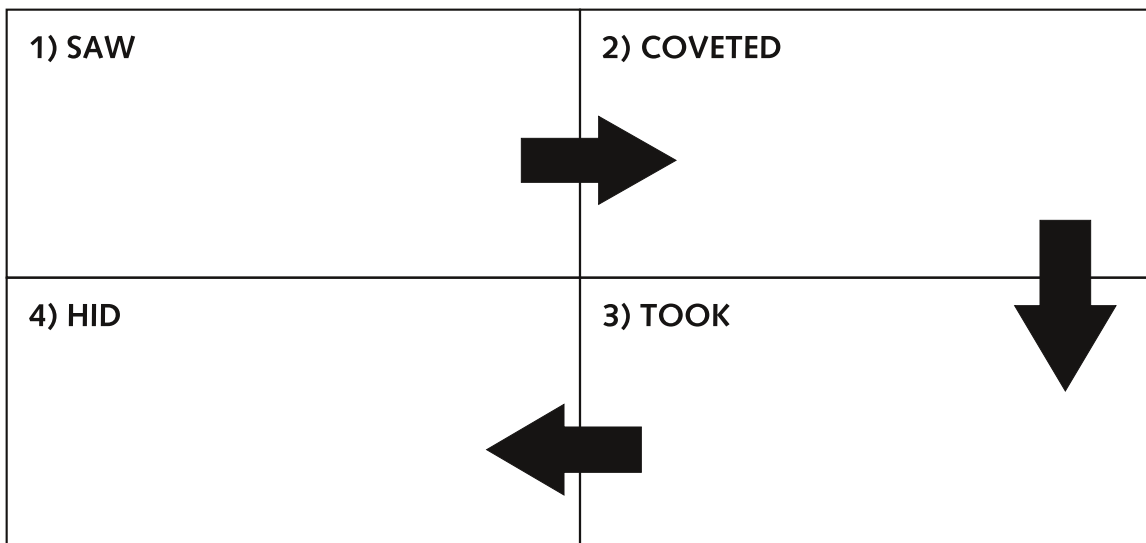


3) TOOK



**Instructions:** Read the following scenario, and then fill out the chart below using details from the scenario.

Mike is an honor student in his 5th grade class. He loves doing well in school, and he brings the same intensity to playing video games at home. In addition to setting limits on how much he can play each week, Mike's parents prohibit him from playing any games on the Sabbath. For the most part, Mike has followed the rules. This year, though, is different. At the beginning of the school year, Mike discovered a way to outsmart his parents so he could spend more time playing. At first, Mike just played for half an hour more each day. But as he got more into his games, he found himself spending more and more time playing. Somehow, he has managed to keep up his grades at school. But his mind is mostly preoccupied with video games and little else. Mike doesn't think it is a problem, because he still earns good grades, but his ability to focus during prayer and Bible reading is suffering. One Saturday morning, he secretly gets up very early to play video games. An hour later, his mom unexpectedly walks in on him. He begs his mother not to tell his father about this.

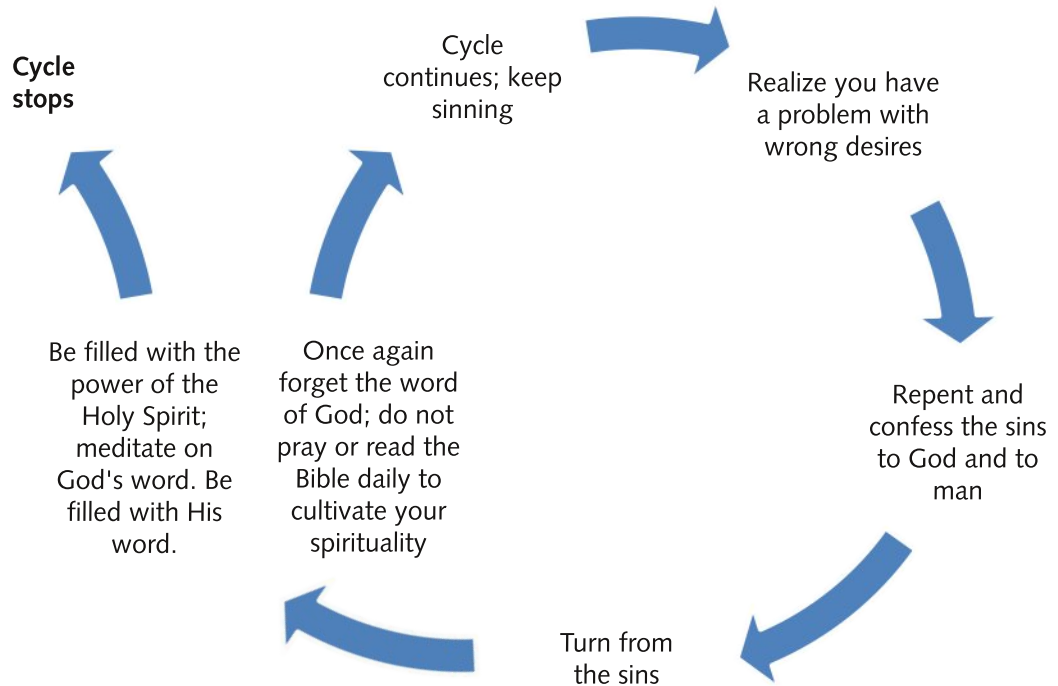


**Discussion Questions**

1. Is Mike's action right or wrong in God's eyes? Why?
2. Look at the diagram and think about how the different stages apply to this example. What are the four stages (saw, coveted, took, hid) involved in Mike's wrongdoing—what tempted Mike and what wrongful actions did he take?
3. In order for Mike to avoid going down the path of sin, he would have to deal with each of the four stages of sinning successfully. What could Mike do to address each of the four stages effectively?

### Breaking the Cycle of Sin

How can we break the cycle of sin?



Some time ago, Ricky went to the local candy store with his friends after school. When he arrived, he saw so many different kinds of candy that he wanted to buy. He looked in his pocket and realized that he didn't have enough money to buy it all. Then he thought to himself, "Why don't I just hide some in my pocket? It's only candy, after all. It's not going to harm anyone if I take it." As Ricky went around filling his plastic bag with candy, he would take some and put it in his pocket. After Ricky went home, he took the candy out of his pocket and put it in his plastic bag. He ate the candy, satisfied that he was able to get all the candy that he wanted. He knew that it was wrong, but he didn't think it was that bad.

Over the next year, Ricky gradually started stealing more and more things, including things that were more valuable than candy. At this point, Ricky knew that he should stop, but he didn't know how to stop. Then, one day, he was doing his Bible reading and came across the story of Achan. Ricky realized that he needed to confess his sins and repent to God. Ricky repented in his prayers to God and told his parents about the things he had stolen in the past year. They were shocked, but they told him that they were proud of him for confessing and admitting his sins. They told him to make sure never to let himself fall into a cycle of sin like this again, and that if he started slipping again, he could always turn to the Bible and to them for help. After that day, Ricky never stole anything ever again and always read the Bible diligently to help keep alert.

#### Discussion Questions

1. How did Ricky know that he had fallen into a cycle of sin?
2. Why was it important for Ricky to break that cycle? What could have happened if Ricky did not take steps to break the cycle?
3. What can we do when we feel like we may be falling into a cycle of sin?

## E2 Year 1 Book 4 Lesson 10—Conquering the Cities of Jericho and Ai

# 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 7:13b)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Short Answer**

1. What did the destruction of Jericho represent spiritually?
  
  
  
2. Why did the initial attack at Ai result in defeat?
  
  
  
3. From the severe punishment of Achan and his family, what can we learn about the importance of holiness?

**Life Application: Overcoming Temptations**

4. Read Matthew 4:1-11. What are the three temptations Jesus faced?
  
  
  
5. How does Satan usually tempt us?
  
  
  
6. How did Jesus overcome His temptations?