

**Week One: Crossing the Jordan**

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

As the students arrive, invite them to play a game of “Follow the Leader.” A teacher should be the leader initially but then allow other students to take the role as leader. In today’s Treasure Story, the students will be learning about a new leader named Joshua. God chose Joshua to be a leader for the Israelites. Just like the children follow the leader while playing this game, God wanted the Israelites to follow Joshua.

**Week One: Crossing the Jordan****Reinforcement Activity:** (10 minutes)

Set out scissors and crayons on the table. Also give each student a copy of the Pennant resource page (see resources). With this activity, students will color a pennant for their rooms. Remind the children that in today's Treasure Story, God commanded Joshua to be courageous when he was chosen to be the new leader of Israel. God wanted Joshua to have courage to lead his people into the Promised Land. We can have courage too!

Point out to the children that the pennant tells us to be courageous. Instruct the children to color their pennant and to cut it out once they have finished coloring. Encourage them to hang their pennant in their rooms to remind them to be courageous each day.

Supplies Needed: Pennant resource page, crayons, scissors

**[Insert the resource page for Week One entitled “Pennant resource page”]**

**Week Two:** Jericho's Walls Come Down

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

Set out crayons and copies of the Walls of Jericho resource page (see resources). As the students arrive, invite the children to color the resource page. Explain to the children that the picture shows a city surrounded by a great wall. This city was called Jericho. In today's Treasure Story, they will learn about the city of Jericho and how God helped bring these strong walls down. God won the victory for his people so that the Israelites could go in and take over the city.

Supplies Needed: Crayons, Walls of Jericho resource page

**Week Two: Jericho's Walls Come Down**

**Reinforcement Activity: (10 minutes)**

Teacher Note: Before beginning this activity, scoop cake icing into a few small bowls. Place these bowls of icing on the table for the students to share.

With this activity, the students will make edible walls of Jericho. Remind the children that in today's Treasure Story, the walls of Jericho surrounded the city to protect the people living inside. The walls were too big for the Israelites to bring down by themselves. God brought the walls down because he is mighty and powerful.

Give each student a paper plate, plastic spoon and four graham cracker squares. Instruct them to use their spoons to scoop out a small amount of cake icing and then spread the icing along the edges of their graham crackers. They should piece the edges with icing together to form the wall around the city. It should look like a square after all the crackers are pieced together. Give the students several gummy bears to represent the people inside the city. Invite the children to eat their edible wall for snack time.

Supplies Needed: Small bowls, cake icing, plastic spoons, paper plates, graham crackers, gummy bears

**[Insert the resource page for Week Two entitled “Walls of Jericho resource page”]**

**Week Three: The Sin of Achan**

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

Teacher Note: Bring from home bed linens and blankets.

As the students arrive, invite the children to use the bed linens and blankets provided to create tents. They can use the tables and chairs in the classroom to help steady their tents. Explain to the children that the Israelites lived in tents when they traveled from place to place in the new land. God was giving them the new land, but they had to defeat their enemies first in order to have a place to live. The tent was their temporary home until the other nations were completely wiped out.

In today's Treasure Story, they will learn about a man named Achan who disobeyed God. Achan disobeyed God by taking some very important objects that were not his and hiding them in his tent. If possible, share the Treasure Story time with the children while sitting in the tent together.

Supplies Needed: Bed linens, blankets

**Week Three: The Sin of Achan**

**Reinforcement Activity: (10 minutes)**

Teacher Note: Prior to class, write "Luke 12:15" on a sheet of colored paper. Place this sheet of paper in your Bible in the correct location. Be sure to leave some of the paper exposed so that the children can easily see it.

This activity will help the students better understand what it means to be greedy and how being greedy is not honoring to God. Begin this activity by asking these questions to the children:

- Has anyone ever complained to their parents or grandparents about wanting something really badly in the grocery store or toy store?
- Has anyone ever wanted something that a friend had so badly that you took it from your friend?
- What things have you really wanted before and what do you really want to have now?

Record their responses on a sheet of chart paper. When we want something so badly that we will complain about it or take it from someone else, then we are being greedy. God does not like for us to be greedy because that means we are not satisfied with what he has given us. In today's Treasure Story, Achan wanted something that was not his own. He took the things devoted to the Lord and was not grateful for what God had given him.

Next, invite a child to remove the colored sheet of paper from your Bible. Read the verse aloud. Explain to the children that this verse speaks against greed and wanting what others have because we should not be focused on things but rather on God.

Supplies Needed: Colored sheet of paper, Bible, chart paper, marker



**Week Four: The Land Conquered and Divided**

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

As the students arrive, invite them to play a game of “Mother, May I?” The students will take turns asking the “mother” whether or not they can walk forward. The “mother” will be one of the teachers, and he or she will either allow the student to move forward a few steps or deny the student the chance to move forward. The first child to reach the “mother” is the winner.

In today’s Treasure Story, they will learn about a group of people called the Gibeonites. The Gibeonites were enemies of the Israelites. The Israelites failed to ask God what to do about the Gibeonites and made a big mistake. Just like the students had to ask the “mother” before they could move forward, we too are supposed to ask God first before we make big decisions. The Israelites should have asked God what to do next.

**Week Four: The Land Conquered and Divided****Reinforcement Activity: (10 minutes)**

Set out crayons and give each student a copy of the New Land resource page (see resources). In today's Treasure Story, the students learned about how God helped the Israelites conquer the land. Once the enemies were wiped out, each of the tribes of Israel were able to receive their portion of the land God had promised. Instruct the children to color their activity sheet. Talk about how the land was flowing with milk and honey. All the Israelites had to do to continue living in the land was to be obedient to God. If they did not obey, they would be sent away from the land or other nations would rule over them.

Supplies Needed: Crayons, New Land resource page

**[Insert the resource page for Week Four entitled “New Land resource page”]**

**Week Five: The Judges of Israel**

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

Teacher Note: Prior to class, collect empty paper towel rolls or toilet paper rolls. If using paper towel rolls, cut them in half. Also place dried beans in several small bowls.

As the children arrive, give each student an empty paper roll and a craft stick. Also set out the bowls of dried beans. Explain to the children that they will be making a gavel, which is an object judges use when they are in court. When the judge drops the gavel to his desk, he is using the gavel to bring order to the court or to finalize a decision that has been made.

For this craft, give each child an empty paper roll and several strips of masking tape. Instruct the students to one end of the roll. Next, the students will place about 10 dried beans inside their paper roll and tape the other end shut. A teacher will then cut a small slit into the roll using a pair of scissors. Instruct the children to gently slide the craft stick into this opening to make their gavel. Explain to the children that a judge is responsible for making decisions regarding the law. They have a tough job. Their decisions are important, and we have to follow the laws they make. In today's Treasure Story, the children will learn about the judges God placed in charge of the Israelites and why they were so important.

**Week Five:** The Judges of Israel

**Reinforcement Activity:** (10 minutes)

Teacher Note: Prior to class, cut out small squares of red, yellow, orange and/or gold tissue paper. Place tissue paper and glue on the tables for the students to use to complete this activity.

With this activity, the will make a torch similar to the one Gideon used when fighting against the Midianites. Give each student a brown paper bag. Explain to the students that the bag represents a torch. Gideon and his men used only torches and jars when rescuing the Israelites from the Midianites. God allowed them to gain victory with just a few tools so that God's power and strength could be displayed.

Next, place the paper bag over your hand like a puppet. Explain to the children that this is how their torch will be held. Then set out the squares of tissue paper and the glue sticks. The flap part of the bag and the backside of the flap is where they are to glue the squares of tissue paper. This will be the fire for the torch.

Remind the children that God uses us in our weaknesses, so we can trust him more. Encourage them to place their torches in their rooms to remind them of God's mighty strength.

Supplies Needed: Tissue paper (red, yellow, orange and/or gold colors needed), scissors, brown paper bags, glue sticks

**Week Six:** Life Without God As King

**Early Arrival Activity:** (15 minutes or until all your students arrive)

Teacher Note: Prior to class, gather mirrors for the students to use to make self-portraits.

Set out crayons and the mirrors you brought from home on the table. For this activity, the students will make a self-portrait by using the mirrors provided. As they arrive to class, invite them to take a seat at the table. Instruct the children to first take a look at themselves in the mirror. Remind them that each child was created special by God. We all have different facial features, personality traits and other things about us that make us one-of-a-kind.

Then give each child a sheet of paper and ask them to draw a picture of themselves. In today's Treasure Story, they will learn about a man named Samson. Samson was created special by God and for a specific purpose. God wanted to use Samson to save the Israelites from the Philistines.

Supplies Needed: Mirrors, paper, crayons

**Week Six: Israel's Unfaithfulness****Reinforcement Activity: (10 minutes)**

Students will make edible barbells. Remind the children that Samson was given great strength. He would keep his strength as long as he did not cut his hair. Samson was able to kill a lion with his bare hands, and he was able to kill 1,000 Philistines. We can gain strength by lifting weights. A barbell is used by people who want to strengthen their muscles. Give each child a paper towel, three pretzel sticks and six large marshmallows. Instruct the children to put a marshmallow on each end of the pretzel sticks. This should form the edible barbell. Invite the children to eat their snack they just created. Remind the children that Samson ultimately had to obey God to keep his strength. When Samson disobeyed God, his strength went away.

Supplies Needed: Paper towels, pretzel sticks, large marshmallows