



THE SOUL OF A NATION

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SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY TEACHER'S GUIDE

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THE COMBINED TEACHER'S GUIDE

FALL QUARTER 2026

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER • NOVEMBER

Christian Education Department
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BASIC SUPPLIES

Bible dictionary	writing paper
Bible pictures and maps	DVD recorder/player
CD players	milk crates
chart paper	paper – letter, drawing
Christian music – books, sheets, recordings	pencils, pens, markers
Christian videos and DVDs	poster boards
crayons	robes, scarves
digital camera	old clothing
digital camcorder	scissors, glue, paste
drawing paper	video player

The Teacher's Guide
Liberating Faith Studies Lessons
Fall Quarter: September – November 2026
Prepared by Rev. Dr. D. Melynda Clarke

The Covenant Continues

Lesson 1

September 6, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 1

Focus Scripture: Joshua 1:1-11

Key Verse: (The Lord said,) "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Key Terms

- **Nomad** – A person historically associated with a tribe, with no permanent home but who moves from place to place, often seasonally, to find food, pasture for livestock, or work.
- **Succession** – The order and conditions under which one person after another succeeds to a property, dignity, title, or throne.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Reexamine God's covenant with God's people found in Genesis 17:1-8, 26:2-5, and 28:13-15.
2. Recognize and understand the process in which Israel was transformed from a nomadic people to a national state.
3. Emphasize God's sovereign interactions that led to divine assignments of leadership and historically significant events that fulfill God's covenant promise.

Teaching Strategies

1. Review the primary theme of Joshua as a transitional state from nomadic existence to a national identity. Utilize ancient historical maps to illustrate their journey.

2. Explore the similarities and differences between the two leaders, Moses and Joshua.
3. Allow adults to explore their own leadership style and personal experiences of transitioning into a leadership position.
4. Recognize that the opinions of adults may differ based on generational perspectives and life experiences.
5. Highlight the benefits of educating future generations on standards and governance as seen in the repetitive teaching of God's laws.
6. Have participants list the qualities and character traits needed of a leader, based on the Israelite's history as nomads and God's covenant to deliver them into a land of promise.

Resources: The Holy Bible – New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSV UE) and a Bible commentary, laptop, projector, large screen, or large monitor with access to Internet, paper or digital whiteboard, *AMEC Hymnal*

Remember God's Actions

Lesson 2

September 13, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 4

Focus Scripture: Joshua 4:14-24

Key Verses: (Joshua said) "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do these stones mean?' then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.'" Joshua 4:21b-22

Key Terms

- **Ark of the Covenant** – The Ark of the Covenant, Ark of God, or "chest of the covenant," was a sacred, gold-plated wooden chest holding the tablets of the Ten Commandments given to Moses by God on Mount Sinai. It also symbolized God's presence and represented the moral laws that bound God's relationship with

Israel.

- **Gilgal** – Served as the Israelites' first campsite in the Promised Land and acted as their primary military and spiritual headquarters during the conquest of Canaan.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Reflect on the covenant relationship between the people of Israel and God.
2. Illustrate the connection of God's saving act of parting the Red Sea (Ex. 14) and God's redemptive intervention in parting the waters of the Jordan River (Josh. 4).
3. Illustrate the symbolic representations of memorials and their impact on future generations as seen with the twelve stones at Gilgal.
4. Identify how Noah's act of worship is a reminder of God's continued response and commitment of providence and mercy towards humanity.

Teaching Strategies

1. Incorporate videos or other images of the Jordan River to engage further discussions.
2. Discuss why it would be important for the Israelites to tell their children about the Jordan crossing. Utilize the Jordan River metaphorically to symbolize other types of barriers to goals.
3. Explore the types of rituals or memorials traditionally used in the church and society. How do these events and figures honor historically significant experiences?
4. Identify and discuss traditional types of worship and memorial services in the church. How are these experiences passed on to future generations?

Resources: The Holy Bible – New Revised Standard Version (NRSV UE) and a Bible commentary, laptop, projector, large screen, or large monitor with access to Internet, paper or digital whiteboard, *AMEC Hymnal*

God's Complicated Promise

Lesson 3

September 20, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-26

Focus Scripture: Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

Key Verse: It was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed and might receive no mercy but be exterminated, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Joshua 11:20

Key Terms

- **Jericho** – The first city the Israelites encountered and conquered after crossing the Jordan River into the Promised Land. Its miraculous fall served as a definitive demonstration of divine power over human strength.
- **Inheritance** – The passing of physical property/land within families and the spiritual blessings, promises, and covenantal rights bestowed by God upon his people.
- **Plunder (shalal, bizah)** – Goods, livestock, or people taken by force during war or conquest, representing both material spoils and divine judgment.
- **Allotment** – A division of the conquered land of Canaan among the tribes of Israel as an inheritance.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Critically examine the theological paradox of being chosen by God verses being saved through Christ.
2. Value God's laws and see their relevance today.

3. Recognize the importance of God's presence in the life of the people.

Teaching Strategies

1. As an introduction to this lesson, review the covenant promise (Genesis 12:15) that Abraham's family would be a blessing to the world. Discuss the tension that arises within this text and how this may be interpreted differently through a New Testament lens. Recognize the difficult issues that arise in this story and the concerns about the welfare of children today.

Resources: The Holy Bible – New Revised Standard Version (NRSV UE) and a Bible commentary, laptop, projector, large screen, or large monitor with access to Internet, paper or digital whiteboard, *AMEC Hymnal*

The Teacher's Guide
Senior Lessons
Fall Quarter: September – November 2026
Prepared by Rev. Faith Waters

The Covenant Continues

Lesson 1

September 6, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 1

Focus Scripture: Joshua 1:1-11

Key Verse: (The Lord said,) "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

Words to Know

- **Courageous** – To stand firm, act boldly, and remain faithful in the face of fear, danger, or uncertainty because God is with you.
- **Strong** – Inner fortitude, spiritual toughness, and Godgiven strength to endure, obey, and overcome.
- **Prosperous** – Success, flourishing, and wellbeing that comes from walking in God's ways.
- **Euphrates** – Pronounced: you-FRAY-teez.
- **Hittites** – Pronounced: HIT-ites.

The **Teaching Points** of this lesson are:

1. Discover how the newly appointed leader Joshua leads the nation of Israel into the Promised Land with courage because God was present with him.
2. God gave the people the strength and courage needed to face the challenges, just as God does for us.
3. Because God made Israel strong and courageous, we can count on God making us strong and courageous.

Teaching Strategies

1. God's people had been wandering in the wilderness for a long time. They had never had a land before – they were nomads. The promise of a land of their own was very important to them. It would become clear who they were and how they related to God.
2. While they were in the wilderness, God gave the Israelites a new covenant to go with the one made with Abraham. Part of this new covenant (Mosaic covenant) was that the people were to follow God's instructions (commandments) to be faithful.
3. Review the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20 and discuss how observant each person has been.
4. Discuss the consequences of disobedience in comparison to the blessings God promises for obedience.
5. Discuss what "meditating on the Word day and night" implies for us today.
6. Review the story of Moses and identify its connection to Joshua.

Resources: Old Testament Map

Remember God's Actions

Lesson 2

September 13, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 4

Focus Scripture: Joshua 4:14-24

Key Verses: (Joshua said,) "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do these stones mean?' then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.'" Joshua 4:21b-22

Words to Know

- **Exalted** – To be lifted to a place of great honor, authority, or

glory.

- **Awe** – A deep sense of reverence, wonder, or holy fear in the presence of God.
- **The Ark of the Covenant** – The sacred wooden chest overlaid with gold that held the tablets of the covenant (Ten Commandments) and symbolized God's presence with Israel.
- **Gilgal** – Pronounced: *GILL-gal*.

The **Teaching Points** of this lesson are:

1. When God parted the Jordan, it reminded God's people that just as he parted the Red Sea, God is still with them.
2. Worship is a way we connect with others in faith and reflect on God's faithfulness.
3. We can make our lives a constant thank you to God for all his goodness.

Teaching Strategies

1. The "twelve stones" used to build the memorial at Gilgal symbolize the twelve tribes of Israel. This intentional representation is included again in the book of Judges.
2. Just as God parted the Red Sea, his display of power at the Jordan made his act known throughout the land. Nations feared God's power.
3. God exalted Joshua due to his obedience, faith, and leadership.
4. Discuss various ways we can worship God together, such as community projects, using our gifts to bless others, serving the needy, etc.
5. Discuss the difficulties of transitioning from one place to another (school, college, new house, city).

6. Let the class share various monuments in their church, city, or community and their meanings.
7. Tell the class to search on their electronic devices for the location of the Jordan River.

Resources: Map of Jordan River, bracelet beads, elastic string, art supplies

God's Complicated Promise

Lesson 3

September 20, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-26

Focus Scripture: Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

Key Verse: It was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed, and might receive no mercy, but be exterminated, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Joshua 11:20

Words to Know

- **Hamstrung** – To cripple, disable, or cut the tendons of the legs so something (usually horses) can no longer run or be used in battle.
- **Mercy** – God's compassionate action toward the undeserving; his loyal love that withholds judgment and gives kindness instead.
- **Allotment** – Land portions given to Israel's tribes as an inheritance by God.
- **Misrephothmaim** – Pronounced: mis-REH-foth-MAH-yeem.

The **Teaching Points** of this lesson are:

1. Joshua led Israel in the battle against the Canaanite nations in response to God's guidance and with God's promise of victory.
2. God never leaves us alone but is always available to guide us.

3. Every part of our lives is a living witness to who God is.

Teaching Strategies

1. Have the class research the places Joshua and the Israelites conquered on an Old Testament map. Then have them re-search the same places on a modern-day map. This will help them identify the locations and understand their historical significance to the Israelites.
2. *How to Create Blackout Poetry - Find Your Text:* Grab a page from a newspaper, an old book you don't mind marking up, a magazine article, or even a printed piece of junk mail. *Scan and Anchor:* Lightly skim the page without fully reading it. Look for anchor words – words that catch your eye, carry strong imagery, or resonate with your current mood. *Map the Path:* Using a pencil, lightly circle or underline the words you want to keep. Read them in order from top to bottom, left to right, to see if they flow together or create a striking juxtaposition. *The Blackout:* Once you're happy with your poem, use a black sharpie, marker, pen, or even colored pencils/paint to completely black out or design over the unwanted text. Only your chosen words should remain visible.

Resources: Printed copies of the **Focus Scripture**, Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

The Teacher's Guide
Intermediate Lessons
Fall Quarter: September – November 2026
Prepared by Rev. Dr. Teneramie C. Jimenez

The Covenant Continues

Lesson 1

September 6, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 1

Focus Scripture: Joshua 1:1-11

Key Verse: (The Lord said,) "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9.

Vocabulary

- **Covenant (KUHV-uh-nuhnt)** – A sacred agreement or promise between God and God's people.
- **Joshua (JOSH-oo-uh)** – Moses' successor chosen by God to lead Israel into the Promised Land.
- **Promised Land** – The land God promised to Abraham and his descendants.
- **Courage (KUR-ij)** – The ability to do what is right even when afraid.
- **Meditate (MED-uh-tate)** – To think deeply about God's Word and apply it to daily life.
- **Moses (MOH-ziz)** – God's servant who led Israel out of Egypt and received God's law.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. **Understand** how God called Joshua to lead the Israelites after the death of Moses and continued his covenant promises to his people.

2. **Recognize** that courage comes from trusting God's presence, guidance, and promises rather than relying on our own strength.
3. **Apply** Joshua's example of faith and obedience by choosing to follow God's Word and demonstrate courage in daily life.

Teaching Strategies

1. *Think-Pair-Share*

Ask students to think about a time when they had to be courageous. Have them pair up with a classmate to discuss their experiences, then share with the class how trusting God can help them face challenges. Connect their responses to Joshua's leadership and God's command to "be strong and courageous."

2. *Scripture Reflection Activity*

Write Joshua 1:9 on the board or display it on a screen. Have students read the verse aloud together. Ask them to identify words or phrases that stand out to them and discuss how those words can encourage them in situations at school, home, church, or with friends.

Review Activity



Open a free Kahoot account. Before closing in prayer, have students participate in a Kahoot review game based on Joshua 1:1-11. After each question, allow students to briefly discuss their answers and what they learned from the lesson.

Activity: Courage With Joshua Kahoot!

Tell students: Let's see what we learned about Joshua and courage! We'll play a short Kahoot quiz to review today's lesson and discover how God's promises helped Joshua become a courageous leader.

Teacher Note: Create a Kahoot quiz using the questions below. The

answer marked with a ✓ is correct. Encourage discussion after each question to reinforce the lesson.

Who became Israel's leader after Moses died?

- ☐ Aaron
- ☐ Caleb
- ☐ Joshua ✓
- ☐ Samuel

What command did God repeat to Joshua several times?

- ☐ Build an altar
- ☐ Fast and pray
- ☐ Be strong and courageous ✓
- ☐ Return to Egypt

Why could Joshua be courageous?

- ☐ He was the strongest warrior
- ☐ He had the biggest army
- ☐ God promised to be with him ✓
- ☐ Moses returned to help him

What did God tell Joshua to study and obey?

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ History books
- ☐ The book of the Law ✓
- ☐ Military plans

What does courage mean for Christians today?

- ☐ Never feeling afraid
- ☐ Being the loudest person
- ☐ Trusting God and doing what is right ✓
- ☐ Winning every battle

Resources: Kahoot (Get a free account online. Children this age are familiar with Kahoot.)

Remember God's Actions

Lesson 2

September 13, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 4

Focus Scripture: Joshua 4:14-24

Key Verses: “When your children ask their parents in time to come, ‘What do these stones mean?’ then you shall let your children know, ‘Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.’” Joshua 4:21b-22

Vocabulary

- **Memorial (muh-MOR-ee-uhl)** – Something created to help people remember an important event.
- **Jordan River** – The river the Israelites crossed to enter the Promised Land.
- **Legacy (LEG-uh-see)** – Something important that is passed down from one generation to the next.
- **Faithfulness (FAYTH-fuhl-nuhs)** – God’s constant love, care, and commitment to his people.
- **Testimony (TES-tuh-moh-nee)** – A story or witness about what God has done.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. **Understand** why God instructed Joshua to set up twelve memorial stones after crossing the Jordan River.
2. **Recognize** the importance of remembering and sharing stories of God’s faithfulness with future generations.
3. **Apply** the lesson by identifying ways to remember God’s actions and share personal testimonies of faith.

Teaching Strategies

1. *Memory Object Activity*

Bring an object or photograph that reminds you of an important event. Ask students to share an item, memory, or family tradition that helps them remember something meaningful. Connect

their responses to the twelve stones Joshua set up as a memorial to God's faithfulness.

2. *Testimony Circle*

Have students sit in a circle and discuss a time when God helped them, answered a prayer, or guided them through a challenge. Explain that sharing testimonies helps others remember God's faithfulness, just as the Israelites shared the story of crossing the Jordan River.



Open a free Kahoot account. Before closing in prayer, have students participate in a Kahoot review game based on Joshua 4:14-24. After each question, allow students to briefly discuss their answers and what they learned from the lesson.

Activity: Remembering God's Faithfulness Kahoot!

Tell students: Let's see what we learned about God's faithfulness! We'll play a short Kahoot quiz to review today's lesson and discover why remembering God's actions is important for every generation.

Teacher Note: Create a Kahoot quiz using the questions below. The answer marked with a ✓ is correct. Encourage discussion after each question to reinforce the lesson.

What did Joshua set up after the Israelites crossed the Jordan River?

- ☐ A tent
- ☐ An altar
- ☐ Twelve stones ✓
- ☐ A statue

Why were the twelve stones important?

- ☐ They marked the border of Israel
- ☐ They showed where Joshua lived

☐ They helped people remember what God had done ✓

☐ They were used for building

What were parents supposed to tell their children about the stones?

☐ How to build a monument

☐ Where to find water

☐ How God helped Israel cross the Jordan River on dry ground ✓

☐ How to become a leader

What does a memorial help people do?

☐ Forget the past

☐ Become famous

☐ Travel safely

☐ Remember important events ✓

What is one way Christians today can remember God's faithfulness?

☐ Ignore difficult times

☐ Keep blessings secret

☐ Only remember mistakes

☐ Share testimonies, pray, and read scripture ✓

Resources: Kahoot (Get a free account online. Children this age are familiar with Kahoot.)

God's Complicated Promise

Lesson 3

September 20, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 6; 8:26; 10:28-43; 11:1-23; Deuteronomy 7:1-26

Focus Scripture: Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23

Key Verse: It was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, so that they might be utterly destroyed and might receive no mercy but be exterminated, just as the Lord had commanded Moses. Joshua 11:20

Vocabulary

- **Promise (PROM-is)** – A commitment or pledge that someone intends to keep.
- **Canaan (KAY-nuhn)** – The land God promised to give to the Israelites.
- **Obedience (oh-BEE-dee-uhns)** – Following God's instructions and commands.
- **Nation (NAY-shun)** – A group of people living under one government or ruling authority.
- **Justice (JUS-tis)** – Fairness and righteousness according to God's standards.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. **Understand** how God remained faithful to his promise to give Israel the Promised Land.
2. **Recognize** that Joshua trusted and obeyed God even when facing difficult challenges and powerful enemies.
3. **Apply** the lesson by learning to trust God and remain faithful when facing situations that seem difficult or confusing.

Teaching Strategies

1. *Trust Walk Activity*

Pair students together. One student closes their eyes while the other gives directions to guide them safely across the room. Afterward, discuss how trust is necessary when following directions. Connect the activity to Joshua trusting God's guidance during difficult battles.

2. *Difficult Decisions Discussion*

Present students with age-appropriate scenarios involving difficult choices. Ask them how they would respond and what role

faith might play in their decisions. Connect their answers to Joshua's commitment to obey God even when situations were challenging.

Review Activity



Open a free Kahoot account. Before closing in prayer, have students participate in a Kahoot review game based on Joshua 11:6-9, 16-23. After each question, allow students to briefly discuss their answers and what they learned from the lesson.

Activity: Trusting God's Promises Kahoot!

Tell students: Let's see what we learned about God's promises and Joshua's faith! We'll play a short Kahoot quiz to review today's lesson and discover how trusting God helped Joshua lead Israel through difficult challenges.

Teacher Note: Create a Kahoot quiz using the questions below. The answer marked with a ✓ is correct. Encourage discussion after each question to reinforce the lesson.

Who led the Israelites into the Promised Land battles?

- ☐ Moses
- ☐ Aaron
- ☒ Joshua ✓
- ☐ Caleb

What did God repeatedly tell Joshua when facing his enemies?

- ☐ Build more cities
- ☐ Gather more soldiers
- ☒ Do not be afraid ✓
- ☐ Return home

Why was Joshua successful in his mission?

- ☐ He had the largest army
- ☐ He was the strongest leader
- ☒ He trusted and obeyed God ✓

☐ He had better weapons

What did God promise to give Israel?

☐ A new king

☐ Great wealth

☐ *The Promised Land* ✓

☐ More soldiers

What can we learn from Joshua's example today?

☐ Give up when things get difficult

☐ Depend only on ourselves

☐ Follow the crowd

☐ *Trust God and remain faithful during challenges* ✓

Resources: Kahoot (Get a free account online. Children this age are familiar with Kahoot.)

The Teacher's Guide
Junior Lessons
Fall Quarter: September – November 2026
Prepared by Rev. Rachel Williams-Glenn

God Calls Joshua to Leadership

Lesson 1

September 6, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 1

Focus Scripture: Joshua 1:1-11

Key Verse: (The Lord said,) "I hereby command you: Be strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9.

Word Power!!!

- **Joshua** – The religious leader who took over from Moses and led the Israelites into the Promised Land.
- **Wilderness** – The southern end of the land that God promised to the Israelites.
- **Lebanon (pronounced *leb-a-non*)** – The southern end of the land that God promised to the Israelites.
- **Euphrates (pronounced *you-frate-tees*)** – The river that marks the eastern end of the land that God promised to the Israelites.
- **Great Sea** – The Mediterranean Sea, which marks the western end of the land that God promised to the Israelites.
- **Law** – Most likely the book of Deuteronomy, which offers instructions for how the people are to live as God's chosen people inside the Promised Land.
- **Officers of the People** – Non-religious leaders who helped Moses and then Joshua handle issues the people had with one another.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explore both the need for and the way that leadership transfers from Moses to Joshua.
2. Compare the way Moses and God prepare Joshua for leadership to the way that mentors and God prepare young people for leadership today.
3. Come up with an activity to show how believers stay loyal, brave, and true to God that younger kids can join in doing.

Teaching Strategies

1. Have students create a Joshua figure with the male stick figure cutout, strip of cloth, and yarn. Then add the sword to show him becoming a military leader. Finally add the piece of white cloth to the head to show him receiving the mantle of leadership.
2. Ask students how they feel when an adult tells them to do something three or more times. Then ask them if they think Joshua feels the same way when God tells him to be strong and courageous three times.

Resources: Male stick figure wood cutout, strips of cloth, and yarn to create biblical Israelite outfits, mini wood craft stick to create a sword, a small piece of white cloth to serve as a mantle, and glue to create Joshua figures. Christina Aguilera's song "Loyal Brave and True" from the 2020 version of *Mulan* and a device to play it on.

Follow God's Instructions

Lesson 2

September 13, 2026

Lesson Scripture: Joshua 4

Focus Scripture: Joshua 4:14-18, 21-22

Key Verses: (Joshua said,) "When your children ask their parents in time to come, 'What do these stones mean?' then you shall let your children know, 'Israel crossed over the Jordan here on dry ground.'" Joshua 4:21b-22.

Word Power!!!

- **Exalted** – Honored or lifted up.
- **Ark of the Covenant** – The special wooden chest that holds the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments, manna, and Aaron's staff.
- **Jordan** – The river the Israelites had to cross to move from the wilderness into the Promised Land.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Discover how following God's instructions can be an act of worship and an excuse to teach others about God
2. Create a "thank you" memorial that can also be used to teach others about God
3. Explore ways that acts of worship can also be used to teach people about God

Teaching Strategies

1. Either show the class the 3 minute and 49 second Crossroads Kid's Club YouTube video or the 2 minute and 22 second Saddleback Kids YouTube video on the crossing of the Jordan River.
2. Have the students use the stones and art supplies to create their own memorial of the good things God's done for them.
3. Give students the option of jumping rope while chanting the prayer in the **Praise God!!!** section.

Resources: Stones and markers or paint; YouTube video about the crossing of the Jordan like the one Crossroads Kid's Club did called "God's Story: Joshua Crosses the Jordan River" at <https://youtu.be/tT9Nf16al-g?si=RvflHOrUiSKYVW7b> or the one that Saddleback Kids did called "Joshua and the Israelites Cross the Jordan: Stories of the Bible" at https://youtu.be/vgZawfrPSn8?si=xQ_6dLStyFayd9fC; regular jump rope or Double Dutch jump rope

God Leads God's People to Victory

Lesson 3

September 20, 2026

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

Focus Scripture: Joshua 11:16-23

Key Verse: Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses...And the land had rest from war. Joshua 11:23.

Word Power!!!

- **Negeb (pronounced *neh-geb*)** – A desert area.
- **Goshen (pronounced *go-shin*)** – A city in the southern hill country of Judah.
- **The Arabah (pronounced *air-a-buh*)** – Desert section of the valley near Jericho.
- **Hivites** – The people who made a peace treaty with Joshua by pretending to travel from far away.
- **Kings** – The rulers who opposed the Israelites.
- **Gibeon** – The area where the Hivites lived. It would become part of the tribe of Benjamin's territory later on.
- **Anakim** – Very tall legendary warriors living in southern Hebron who were often called giants.

Lesson Goals: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

1. Explore how God helps the Israelites win against the rulers of the cities and other warriors that don't want the Israelites in the Promised Land.
2. Understand why this version of the conquest of Canaan focuses so much on how Joshua obeys Moses' advice about entering the Promised Land.

3. Be able to share their own testimonies about God keeping God's promises

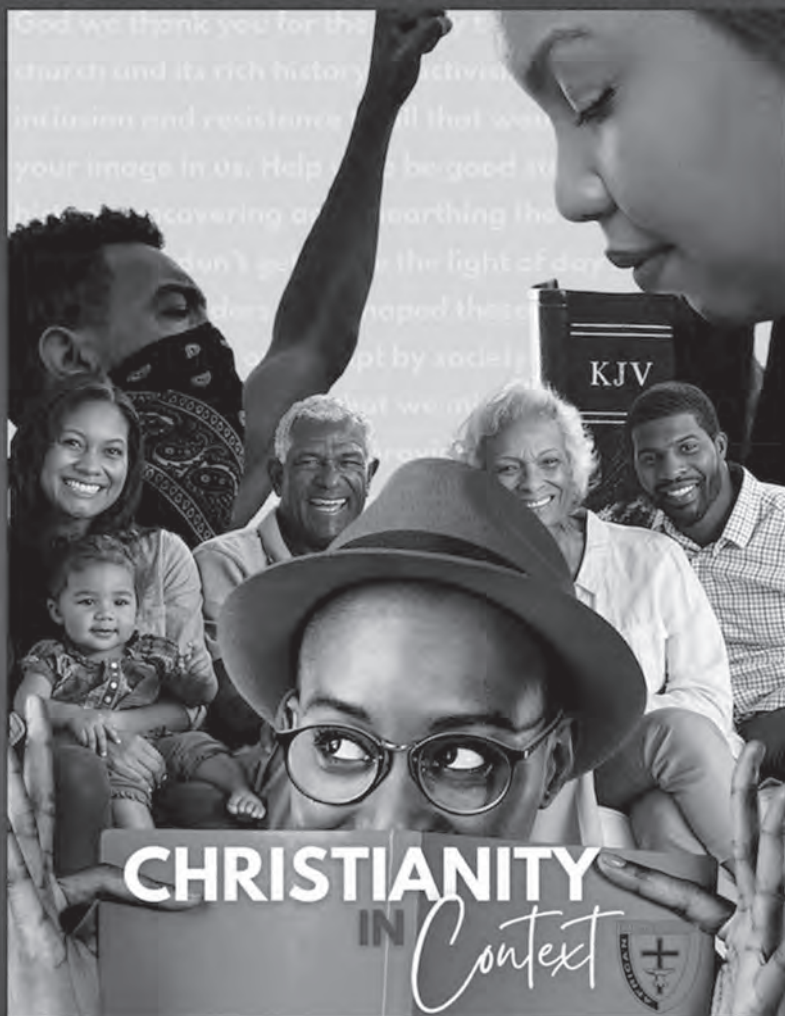
Teaching Strategies

1. Allow space for students to react negatively to the violence described in today's lesson.
2. Play the two *Encanto* video clips and have the students compare the two different testimonies of what happened on Peppa's wedding day.
3. **Activity #1** answers:



Resources: Kid-friendly map of the conquest of the southern part of Canaan that's describe in the lesson like the one here: <https://biblemapper.com/blog/index.php/2020/10/30/the-conquest-of-canaan-the-southern-campaign/>. The "We Don't Talk About Bruno" YouTube video found at https://youtu.be/QmIlNlnNPzQ?si=s23uO2KjqC_NohsE. The first 27 seconds of the "Encanto – Bruno Returns Home" YouTube video found at: https://youtu.be/5c3ZrTXYY8Y?si=A61cXZ_wp1LgUABq.

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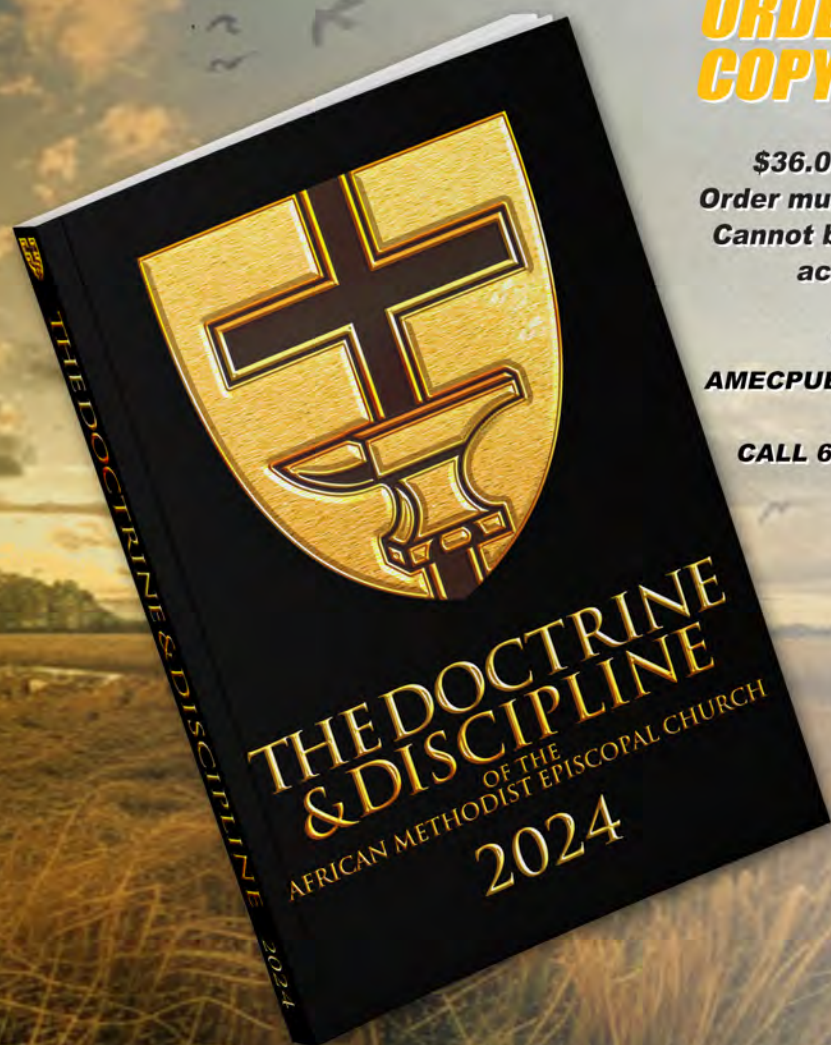
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