

Sep 27, 2026

Joshua and Rahab

Joshua 1 & 2

Story: Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word. :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

★ Introduction & Story:

Short recap of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy as we move into the book of Joshua. God created the heavens and the earth and made a perfect garden called Eden, where Adam and Eve lived. But they sinned! Sin is anything we think, say, or do that displeases God. When we sin, we are separated from God and there is nothing we can do to fix that.

God promised to send a Savior to allow us to be with God again and while people waited, they continued to sin. Yet God remained faithful to His promise and continued His plan. He is carrying out His plan to save us! The last few weeks, we talked of Moses and how God used Him to deliver the Israelites from Egypt. God also used Moses to bring the laws He wanted the Israelites to follow so their lives would be better and safer.

After the death of Moses the Lord spoke to a young man named Joshua. He had been Moses' assistant. He told Joshua that it was time for the Israelites to cross the Jordan River and claim the Promised Land.

Joshua 1:2

"Moses my servant is dead. Now you and all the people prepare to cross over the Jordan to the land I am giving the Israelites.

God promised Joshua that he would always be with him. He told Joshua to always be strong and courageous.

Joshua 1:5

No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. I will be with you, just as I was with Moses. I will not leave you or abandon you.

Then Joshua started to get his people ready to go to the Promised Land. He told them to get provisions (food, water and supplies) ready.

Joshua 1:10-11

Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, “Go through the camp and tell the people, ‘Get provisions ready for yourselves, for within three days you will be crossing the Jordan to go in and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you to inherit.’”

Across the Jordan River there was a city called Jericho. It was the first place that the Israelites would need to conquer on their way to the Promised Land. The people of Jericho had heard how the Israelite’s God had helped them since they left Egypt. They were afraid of the Israelites.

Joshua sent two men as spies to Jericho. He wanted them to find out about the city and how it would be possible for the Israelites to conquer it.

Joshua 2:1

Joshua secretly sent two men as spies, saying, “Go and scout the land, especially Jericho.” So they left, and they came to the house of a woman named Rahab and stayed there.

The king of Jericho was told that the Israelite men had come to the city to investigate. He was told that the men were at the home of Rahab. He sent word to Rahab and told her to bring the men out.

Rahab had actually hidden the two men. She told the messengers that the men had been there, but they left. She said that she didn’t know where they were going, but if the men hurried, they might be able to catch up with them.

Joshua 2:4 – 7

But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them. So she said, “Yes, the men did come to me, but I didn’t know where they were from. At nightfall, when the city gate was about to close, the men went out, and I don’t know where they were going. Chase after them quickly, and you can catch up with them!” But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them among the stalks of flax that she had arranged on the roof. The men pursued them

along the road to the fords of the Jordan, and as soon as they left to pursue them, the city gate was shut.

Rahab went up to the roof and talked to the two men. She explained that the people of Jericho were afraid of them because they knew how God had helped them since they left Egypt. She made the spies promise that when the Israelites came to take the city, that they would protect her. Because she had protected them, they promised to protect her and her family.

Joshua 2:14

The men answered her, “We will give our lives for yours. If you don’t report our mission, we will show kindness and faithfulness to you when the Lord gives us the land.”

Then she let them down by a rope through the window, since she lived in a house that was built into the wall of the city. She told them to go to the hill country so that the men who were chasing them would not find them.

The men told her to tie a red cord to the window that she was lowering them from. This would make sure they knew which house was hers when they returned. They told her to bring all of her family into her house so that they too could also be saved.

Then the two spies returned to Joshua and reported everything that happened to them. They also told him that the people of Jericho were afraid of them.

Joshua 2:23-24

Then the men returned, came down from the hill country, and crossed the Jordan. They went to Joshua and reported everything that had happened to them. They told Joshua, “The Lord has handed over the entire land to us. Everyone who lives in the land is also panicking because of us.”

★ **Connection to God’s Overall Story/Plan:**

The spies go to Rahab’s house, and she makes sure they are safe. They then promise to keep her safe when they come back to capture Jericho. The amazing thing is that later in the Bible we find out that Rahab was in the genealogy of Jesus. She was the mother of Boaz who is the great-grandfather of King David. 28 generations later, Jesus is born. God sent Jesus all those years later to be our Saviour.

In this story, the Israelites are entering the promised land. God told Abraham that his family - the enslaved ones - would make it back to Canaan (Genesis 15:13-16). Joshua leads them to do that all these years later! Also, there has been a stone that was found with engravings that proves the Israelites were in Canaan. It is called **Merneptah Stele** - it is from 1208 years before Jesus' birth or thereabouts and it is the oldest record of the Israelites outside of the Bible.

Follow Up: As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

- ★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.
- ★ **Examine:**
 - Comprehension Questions:
 - Joshua sent spies to Jericho to check out the land. Do we know the names of the spies?
 - Rahab must have known that the men were Israelites. Why do you think she was willing to take a chance and hide them?
 - What did she ask the men to promise to do when they came back to capture the city?
 - Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
 - God delivers on His promises! He promised to help them return and He does. God uses people from all over the world to help show the world His love - even Rahab, who was not an Israelite.
 - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
 - Humans have the choice to serve God or not to serve God. In this story, Rahab served God by protecting His people.
- ★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"

- Jesus is asking us to trust Him. He's asking us to remember that He does what He says He is going to do. He told Abraham in Genesis that they would enter Canaan and here 400+ years later, they do!

★ Prayer

Memory Verse: Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

★ **Verse:** "Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." -Joshua 1:9b

Memory Verse Practice:

Verse Look Up: Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- Rainbow Tip: Not necessary until we split classrooms.
- Fireweed Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Then have them find the chapter and verse.

Practice the Verse:

- Rainbow: Not necessary :)
- Fireweed: Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- Trees & Mountains: Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will PM provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines for the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

Books of the Bible:

- ★ If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.

- Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

Sticky Activities: No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities.

★ **Sensory:**

Category	Activity 1	Activity 2
Experiential	Rahab's House: Build a pretend house using boxes or chairs. Children can act out Rahab hiding the spies.	Spy Mission: Give children a simple "mission" to sneak around the room and collect information without being noticed.
Visual	Rahab's Red Cord: Display a bright red cord hanging from a window and explain how it was a sign of protection.	Jericho Map: Show a "map" of Jericho and discuss the difficulties of spying in a walled city.
Smell	Jericho Spice Market: Let children smell cinnamon, cumin, or another safe spice while imagining the city of Jericho.	Title: Activity
Movement	Spy Sneak: Children quietly crawl, tiptoe, and hide as they pretend to be Joshua's spies.	Rahab's Red Cord: Give each child a piece of red yarn or ribbon. Have them: Hold it up high like Rahab's window, stretch it out like a rope, pretend to lower it from a window, follow the leader while holding the "cord." Then say: "Rahab trusted God, and God protected her!"

Sound	Spy Quiet Game: Children practice moving silently while trying to complete a simple task.	Courage Chant: Teach the children to say together: “Be strong and courageous!” (Joshua 1:9)
Crafts	Rahab and the spies: Color and cut Activity page showing the spies climbing down	Rahab’s Window and the Red Cord: Using popsicle sticks and the red cord from the movement activity (if chosen), create a window and hang the red cord from the top.

Send Home Page: Please send home with parents. They are sized 4 to a page.

September 27, 2026 Lesson Activities

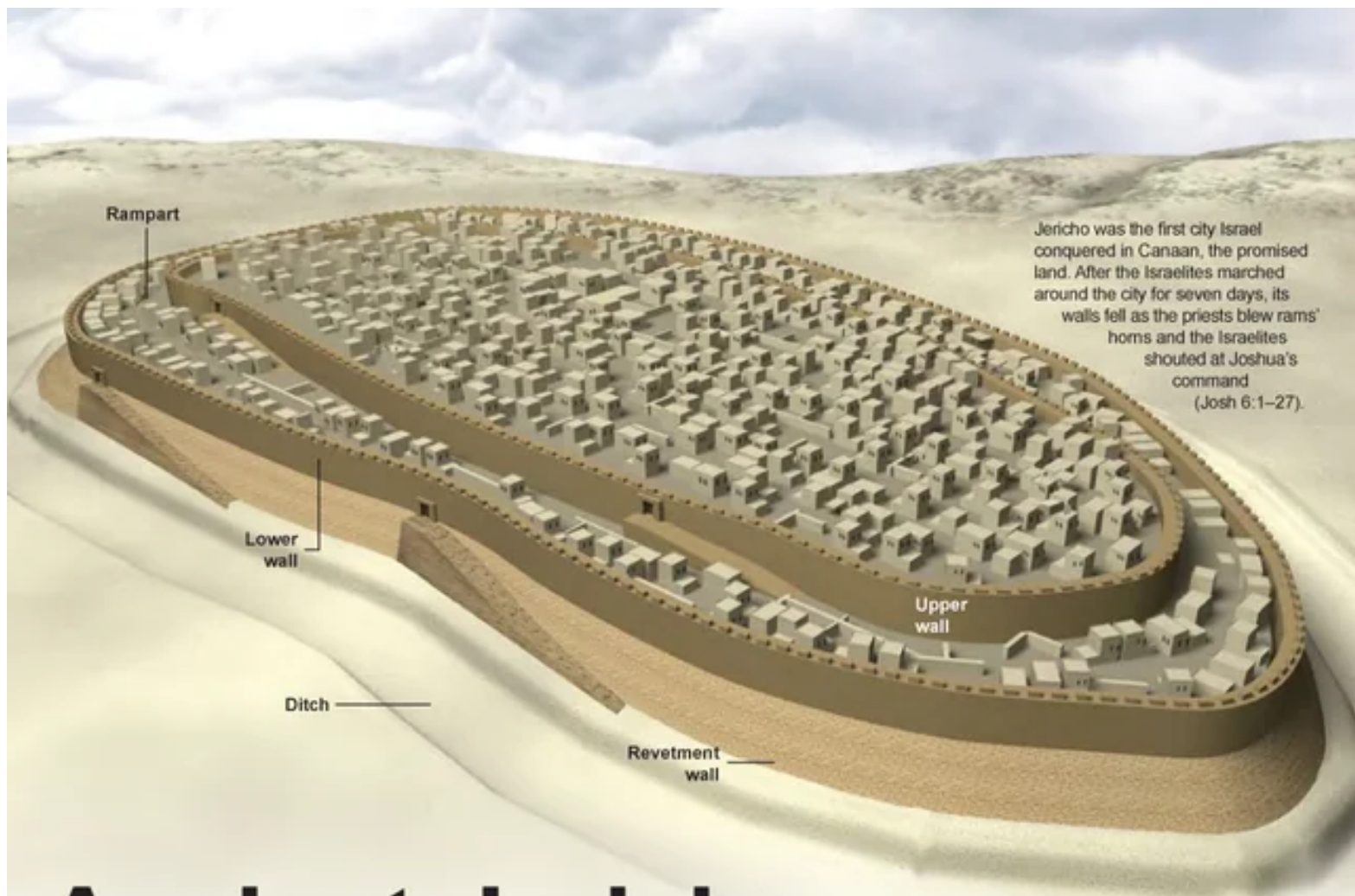
Jericho "Map" (on next page):

During the lesson, show the reconstruction of the city of Jericho. Talk about the difficulties of sneaking in and spying.

Rahab and the spies:

Color and cut.





Ancient Jericho

Toward the end of the Bronze Age

Archaeological excavations reveal that Jericho was violently destroyed sometime toward the end of the Bronze Age. The walls seem to have been thrown down by sudden force, as if by an earthquake. Charred wood shows that what was left of the city was burned. Excavators have also found food supplies buried in the destroyed city, which shows it was not captured by siege.



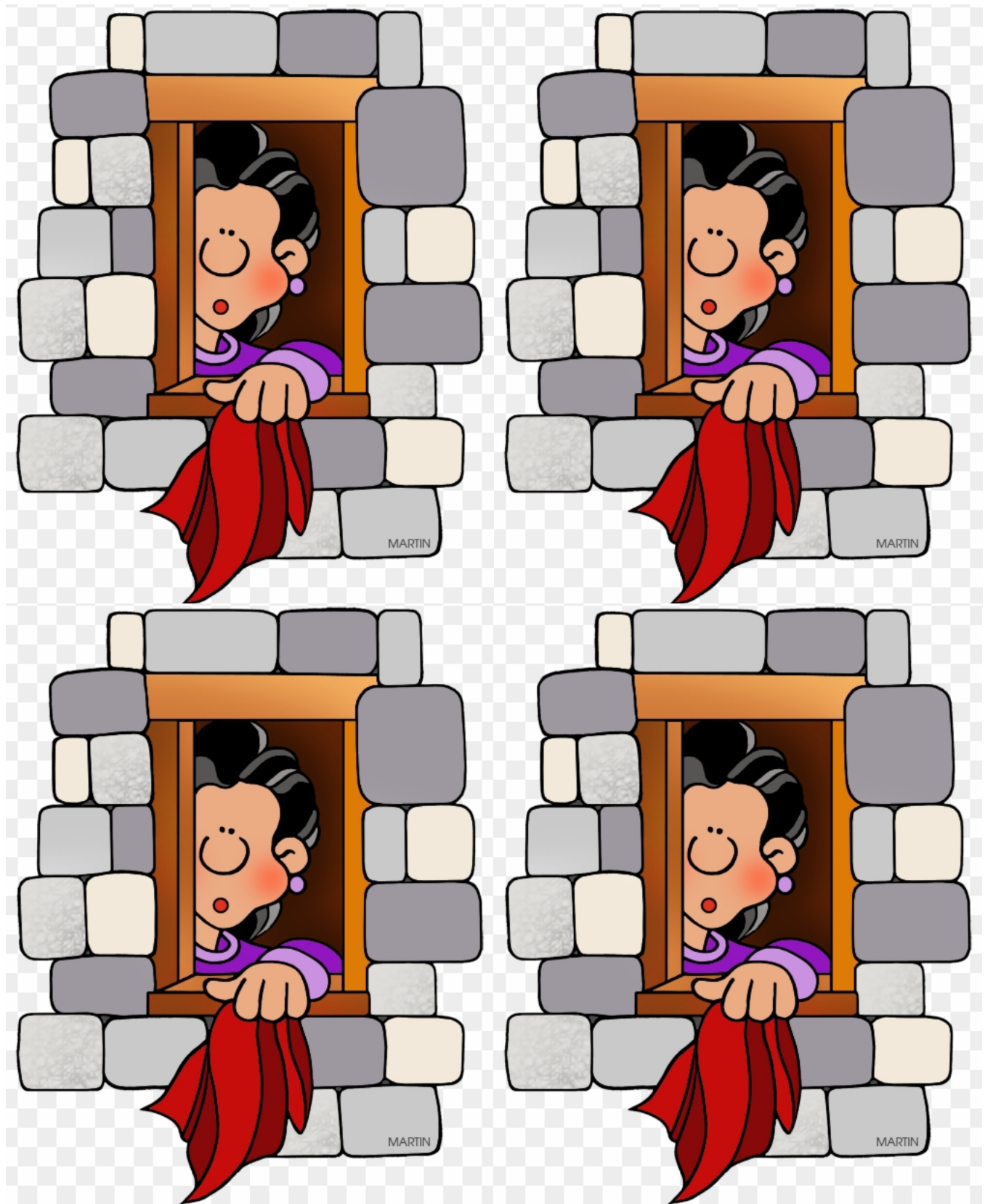
GRAPHIC BY KARBEL MULTIMEDIA, COPYRIGHT 2011 LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE

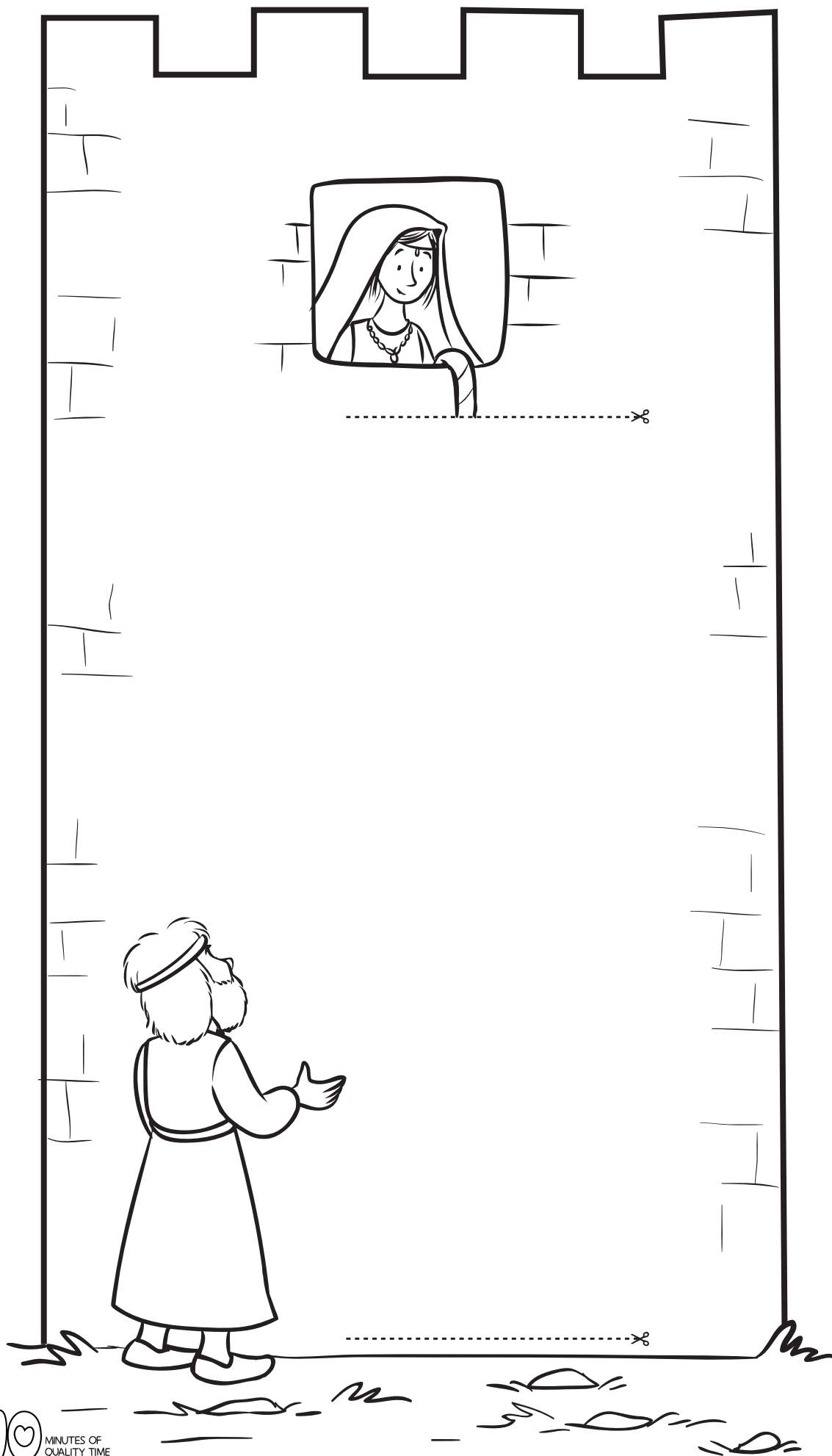
Rahab's Window and the red cord:

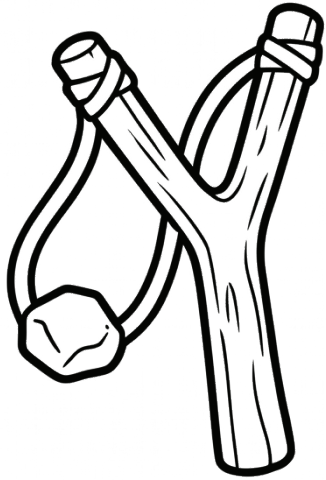
Using popsicle sticks, create a window frame.

Option 1: Use the picture below of Rahab hanging the red cord out the window.

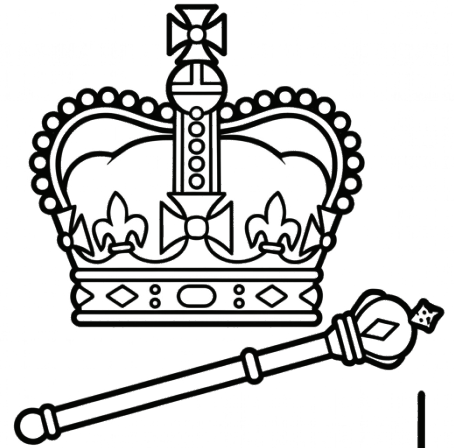
Option 2: Have kids color their own "window" and use a red cord, string, paper, to represent the cord Rahab hung out the window.





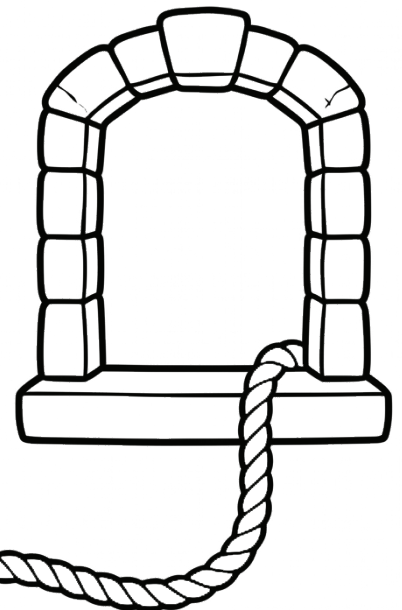
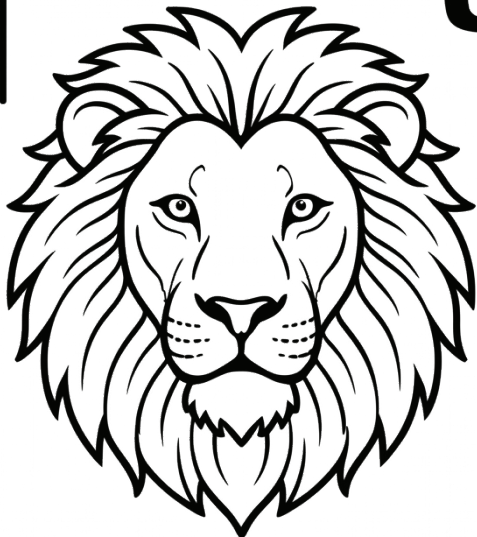


**BE STRONG
AND**



COURAGEOUS.

**DO NOT BE
AFRAID**



Joshua 1:9

Memory Verse:

September 27, 2026

“Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

-- Joshua 1:9b

Fill in the Blanks

Do ____ be _____ or
discouraged, ____ the _____
your ____ is with ____
wherever ____ go.

-Joshua 1:9b

If you could go anywhere, where would
it be and why? Draw or write.

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*Kids that recite the memory verse
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Dates: 9/30, 10/7, & 10/14
Time: 5:30 - 7pm



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