

OBSTACLES WILL HELP YOU GROW

Family Devotion – Lesson 42

MEMORY VERSE – HEBREWS 11:30

“By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.”

- Jericho was a closed, walled city. God told Israel to march around the walls once a day for six days straight while saying nothing. Each day the Lord had them carry the ark as the priests blew the trumpets. On the seventh day, they were to march around seven times. On the seventh time around, they were to shout when they heard the long trumpet sound (Joshua 6:1-5). The faith of the people unleashed the power of God to take the walls down.
- These walls were a big obstacle to the nation of Israel. It didn't make much sense to just walk around the city walls and not try to climb over. Through this obstacle, God was trying to teach them many things:
 - 1) Patience
 - 2) Faith / Trust
 - 3) Discipline
 - 4) Obedience
- There was only one person who could get the glory or credit for this great victory...God! So often, God will allow us to run into “walls” so we can learn to have faith that unleashes His power.
- This great obstacle in Israel's path increased their faith so they could go on to trust Him even more.
- The next time you run into a wall (obstacle), you should shout out a praise to God and see what happens.
- *“Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the heathen, to give thanks unto thy holy name, and to **triumph in thy praise.**”* (Ps. 106:47)

QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- How do you think Israel felt as they were walking around the walls and not fighting? Do you think Israel looked silly to those in Jericho? What can you learn from this?
- Why is patience important when it comes to following God?
- What does the number seven represent in the Bible? (completion/perfection)
- How does God try to perfect our faith in Him?



PRAYER TIME

- Pray for God to increase your patience.
- Pray for God to help you obey Him, even when the world is doing something opposite.



CHALLENGE

- The next time you run into a big problem, count to seven, remember the walls of Jericho, and shout out a praise to God.