

Family Theme | **Disobedience Leads to Defeat** Date | **November 24, 2024**

Study Text | **Joshua 7:1-26**

Read the Word: Joshua 7:1-26

Disciple Your Family: Discuss how we can avoid defeat and judgment by choosing to obey God.

Discuss the following Key Truths and how to apply them to life. Use the questions to spark discussion.

 **Key Truth: Our Choices Have Consequences for Us and for Others**
(Joshua 7:1-5, 10-26)

APPLY: Think carefully about your decisions and actions. Your choices will have an impact on those around you.

- *Others' actions and choices have influenced and impacted your life, either for good or for bad. Who are you likely to impact with your choices and actions?*
- *How might an overemphasis on self-love or an "always put yourself first" mentality have a negative impact on others?*

APPLY: Make choices and actions that honor and obey God and show people what He is like.


- *What are some ways we can be salt and light in our everyday, ordinary lives?*
- *Some argue that their faith is a private faith and not meant for the public sector. Would you agree or disagree with that? Explain. (We are called to be salt and light and a city on a hill; our faith should not be hidden or compartmentalized; etc.)*

APPLY: Acknowledge and confess sin and live in obedience to God with the help of other believers.

- *How can other believers help us live in obedience to God? (Encourage us; pray for us; serve as accountability partners; etc.)*

APPLY: When you are tempted to sin, think of God's wrath on Achan and his family.

- *How can thinking about the consequences of our potential actions help us when we're tempted to do something we should not do?*

 **Key Truth: Disobeying God Leads to Failure and Judgment (Joshua 7:2-15)**

APPLY: We can expect God's blessing on faithful living and His judgment on disobedience.

- *What can we do to help bring God's blessing on us and our efforts? (Do what He calls us to do; confess and turn away from sin; practice a lifestyle of obedience; saturate our efforts in prayer; etc.)*

APPLY: Remain dependent on God's blessing, not your own abilities.

- *What is the danger in relying on our talents and abilities rather than God's guidance?*
- *In what ways have you seen pride knock a believer off track in his or her walk with God?*

APPLY: Choose holy behavior because your God is holy.

- *In what area do you need to choose holy behavior instead of disobedience?*

APPLY: Understand that with God, any obstacle can be overcome. Without God, no amount of human strength is enough to ensure success.

- *What obstacle do you need to overcome? How will you seek God's help?*
- *Much of our individualistic culture tells us to find power from within. Why is it essential for Christians to seek God's power over the power of self?*

Build a Foundation: Discussion questions for elementary students.

- How can thinking about the consequences of wrong actions help us when we are tempted to do something we shouldn't?
- How can Achan's story remind you of how our sin affects others?
- How can believers help other believers live in obedience to God?

Work together to memorize the Verse of the Month: *Joshua 1:9*



Discuss This Week's Building Block:

The Tabernacle was moveable and built to God's specific instructions. It was divided into three sections: the Outer Court, the Holy Place, and the Holy of Holies.

Everyday Extras:

It's not always black and white as to what the right choice is in some situations. Nor is it always easy to make that right choice when you know what it is. Have family members brainstorm situations where it's easier to make the wrong choice and talk about why it's important to do the hard thing and make the right choice. Talk about temporary consequences for not making right choices (being excluded or made fun of) and the eternal blessings that come as a result of doing what is right. Remind your family complete obedience to God is always the right choice.

Preschool Highlights:

Today your child learned the Israelites followed God's instructions for marching around Jericho. The first six days, they were to march around only one time. On the seventh day, they marched around the city seven times. Then, the walls of Jericho fell to the ground. Only Rahab and her family survived. **I Can Live by Faith** like Joshua and the Israelites did.