FAITHFUL Followers

Memory Verse: ***"The Lord is my shepherd. I have everything I need. He gives me rest in green pastures. He leads me to calm water. He gives me new strength. For the good of His name, He leads me on paths that are right." Psalms 23:1-3***

Big Idea: ***God leads His people because He loves.***

Bible Story: Battle of Jericho | Joshua 6

Gear Up - Arrival

Greet children as they enter the classroom. Mark them present using your iPad and/or paper roster.

Opening Activities: Engage with the kids in your room as they play and interact with designated games and activities as time allows. Use this opportunity to ask kids about their week, discuss their interests, and encourage them to connect with one another!

Memory Verse Game – Cover a Word

What you'll need: poster with the memory verse written on it, small cards (post-its) to cover words
How to Play: *Use the first two sentences only

- ***"The Lord is my shepherd. I have everything I need."***
- Have the kids read the verse aloud together. Then cover the first word with a small card.
- Have the kids say the covered word (even without seeing it). Then continue reading the rest of the verse. Cover the second word with a small card. And so on.
- Repeat until all words are covered and the kids can recite the entire verse without seeing it on the poster.

Bible Time – Build the Wall

What you'll need: plastic cups, blocks, or small boxes, masking tape (limited amount per team), and a timer
How to play:

1. Divide kids into teams.
2. Give them 5–7 minutes to build the tallest, strongest wall possible.
3. After building, test the walls (light fan breeze, gentle shake table, etc.).
4. Then read Joshua 6:20 and discuss.
    - Could shouting normally knock down walls?
    - Why didn't God use normal battle strategies?
    - What does this teach us about faith?
    - Help kids understand how impossible Jericho seemed and why the victory had to be God's power.

Gear Up - Welcome – 5 minutes

Begin 10 minutes after the service time starts (Ex. 9:40 at the 9:30 experience).

Gather kids together in a space where they can see the TV.
Take a moment to **welcome** the kids to KXP and let them know how glad you are that they are here!

PRAY FIRST! We want to model this for our kids. Take a moment to pray for the time together and for the kids in your room.

Lesson Introduction – 5 minutes

Share the Lesson Intro with the class before starting the **KXP lesson video**. Challenge them to listen and pay attention during the Bible Story.

Say: *"Hey KXP! I'm excited to share today's true story from the Bible. Are you ready for a battle? If you're like me, you get pumped up for a good competition. One team against another-one side against an enemy. Well, we are about to learn about an epic battle from the Old Testament. We are still reading from the book of Joshua and let's run through a quick recap from last week."*

Play the KXP lesson video in your classroom.

Bible Story – 10 minutes

Leaders, please read the Bible story below before Sunday to prepare for discussion.

Battle of Jericho | Joshua 6

God's people, the Israelites, were so close to entering the land that God had promised them. But there was a BIG problem! A BIG city stood in their way. This city had tall, strong walls around it. No one could get in and no one could get out.

Remember that Joshua, the leader of God's people, sent spies into Jericho to gather information. A woman named Rahab hid the spies so they could report back to Joshua of what they had seen. Rahab was an unexpected part of the story, and it is amazing how God used her to help His people. God was faithful to lead the Israelites and that included defeating Jericho. The people of Jericho were afraid of the Israelites because their powerful God was leading them with mighty miracles.

Joshua was preparing for battle, when God gave him a very unusual battle plan. Instead of fighting with swords and climbing ladders over walls, God tells Joshua His plan in ***chapter 6, verse 3 "March around the city with your army one time every day. Do this for six days.***" As they marched, seven priests carried trumpets made from ram's horns. The Israelite soldiers took the Ark of the Covenant with them too. If you don't remember what the Ark is, let me describe it for you. It was a special wooden box covered in gold. It had two golden angels, called cherubim, on top. Long poles were used to carry it because no one was allowed to touch it. Inside the Ark were the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments, a jar of manna, the bread God sent from heaven, and Aaron's staff. The Ark was a special symbol of God's presence with His people. When the priests carried it, the people knew God was leading them. Lastly, everyone was told to stay quiet while the marching took place.

Now God gave different instructions for the seventh day. ***In verses 4 and 5, the Lord spoke to Joshua and said "On the seventh day march around the city seven times. On that day tell the priests to blow the trumpets as they march. They will make one long blast on the trumpets. When you hear that sound, have all the people give a loud shout. Then the walls of the city will fall. And the people will go straight into the city."***

Time Out! You mean to tell me that the Israelites didn't have to fight or even lift their swords?! What kind of battle was that?! Well, it was a battle that God fought FOR His people. He led them; and they trusted and obeyed Him. The tall, strong wall just fell at the shouts of God's people. WOW! I would say that is beyond epic! God is so awesome!

Nothing was going to stand in the way of the Israelites getting to the Promised Land. Once they were inside the city of Jericho, Joshua remembered Rahab and how she helped them. Through Joshua, God kept his promise. Not only were Rahab and her family saved but they became part of the Israelite family because she trusted God.

God's ways are surprising sometimes. He uses unusual people and situations simply because of faith. Those who choose to follow Him faithfully become part of His big story. Our Big Idea for this month says that **God leads His people because He loves.** He leads through big cities, high walls, and crowds of soldiers. He also leads us today through confusion, sadness, and troubles. I'm so glad the Lord, Jesus is on my side. I know He will fight for me and stand against the enemy of this world. Man, if I had a trumpet right now, I would blow it like Joshua and the Israelites, because that is news worth celebrating.

Lesson Recap –15 minutes

After the video has ended, **share the Lesson Conclusion** with the class.

Say: *"Thanks for joining us today for this unique true story from the Bible. Make sure to come back next week for more. See y'all soon!"*

Direct the kids to the **Memory Verse** and **Big Idea** posters in your room. Have your class read them together out loud. Celebrate the kids for paying attention and listening well!

Close in Prayer – 3 to 5 minutes

Ask the kids in your room to share any **prayer requests** they have. Give them a moment to **fill out prayer cards** or **choose a prayer prompt** to take home. Then **pray over them**!

- **P**RAISE - *Open with adoration.*
- **R**EPENT - *Recall and connect the Big Idea from the Bible Story to yourself and the kids.*
- **A**SK - *Petition the Lord on the kids' behalf.*
- **Y**IELD - *Close by giving thanks to God for His perfect plan.*

Live It Out – 5 to 8 minutes | Battle of Jericho

Scouts (K-2nd grade) | Make a Paper Shofar (Ram's Horn)

Supplies:

- Construction paper (brown, tan, white, yellow)
- Tape or glue
- Crayons

How to Make:

1. Decorate one side of a piece of construction paper to look like a horn.
2. Roll paper into a cone shape so that the decorated side is showing.
3. Tape it closed.
4. Blow into it like a trumpet or ram's horn.

Leaders:

Talk about how the priests blew the trumpets before the shout.

- Why do you think God chose marching instead of fighting?
- How do we obey God today?
- Has God ever asked you to trust Him in something small?

Navigators (3rd-5th grade) | Strategy Comparison

On a whiteboard, make two columns:

Human Battle Plan	**God's Battle Plan**
Ladders	Marching
Weapons	Trumpets
Yelling to scare	Yelling in faith
Force	Obedience

Leaders Ask:

- Which plan sounds more powerful?
- Which required more faith?
- Emphasize that obedience was the real "weapon."

- Why do you think God chose marching instead of fighting?
- How do we obey God today?
- Has God ever asked you to trust Him in something small?

Leave No Trace – End of the Hour

- As parents arrive to pick up children, have the **kids work together to clean up** the classroom.
- **Thank them** for coming and **encourage them to invite a friend** and come back next week!
- Children can **finish opening activities** while waiting on their parents.