

January 8, 2019 - David Sullivan
Why do we give? Part 1
Joshua 5:13-15

As a church, we have crossed the Jordan and entered the Promise Land. We must now continue toward conquering our first Jericho, the debt we have before us. Beyond that is Phase 2 of our move to help reach generations to come for Jesus. It may seem insurmountable, but God has a plan for us!

As a walled city, Jericho was “tightly shut up” according to Joshua 6:1. Through excavation, Archeologists have found that the city of Jericho had walls 11 feet high and 14 feet wide. The top of the wall was a smooth stone top angling upward at 35 degrees for 35 feet where it joined another massive stone wall that was even taller making the city impregnable. The LORD had a plan for the conquering of a city that must have seemed unconquerable! The details of that plan are laid out in Joshua 6: 1-27. God’s plan called on all the children of Israel to participate. Seven priests blowing trumpets preceded the priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant. Armed guards marched at the front and the rear of the priestly procession followed by all the children of Israel silently marching around the city. For six days they marched around the city once each day – trumpets blowing – but with no war cry. On the seventh day they marched around the city seven times. As the trumpets blew the seventh time, Joshua instructed all the people to shout to the LORD, and the walls of Jericho crumbled before them.

But the real story of the battle is found in Joshua 5:13-15. In these verses we see Joshua, upon whom the mantle of leadership had just fallen, bowing before the “commander of the army of the LORD.” You see, as Joshua and the nation of Israel crossed the Jordan into the Promise Land and drew near to their first obstacle in possessing the land, the LORD had already sent the “commander of the army of the LORD.” God was preparing the way, providing the details of the battle plan, and outlining the part each person was to play. The most important thing that Joshua had to do was to worship. Joshua 5:14-15 tells us that Joshua “fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, “What message does my LORD have for his servant? The commander of the LORD’s army replied, “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy.” And Joshua did so.”

All Joshua had to do was worship – that is why we give – to worship the LORD.

God has prepared the way for us. He has provided everything that we need. He has a part for each of us in His plan. Pray about your part in Destination Next as we move forward to conquer our Jericho.



Journey On