

## JOSHUA

### Fortresses and Faith

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#### *Jericho: the walls of impossibility...*

*Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.  
(Joshua 6:1)*

#### *Joshua's example encourages us when staring down our own "Jericho" in life...*

- ***Be hopeful: you have the promises of God*** – “Then the LORD said to Joshua, ‘See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.’” (Joshua 6:2)

‡ *A promise is only as good as the character and capacity of the one who gives it* – “Not one of all the LORD's good promises to the house of Israel failed; every one was fulfilled.” (Joshua 21:45)

- ***Be open: God's strategies are different*** – “March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in.” (Joshua 6:3-5)
- ***Be certain: God is in the middle of the fight with you*** – “And he ordered the people, ‘Advance! March around the city, with the armed guard going ahead of the ark of the LORD.’ ... The armed guard marched ahead of the priests who blew the trumpets, and the rear guard followed the ark.” (Joshua 6:7, 9a)
- ***Be patient: the walls don't always fall when you want*** – “So on the second day they marched around the city once and returned to the camp. They did this for six days.” (Joshua 6:14)

*The seventh time around, when the priests sounded the trumpet blast, Joshua commanded the people, “Shout! For the LORD has given you the city!... Only Rahab the prostitute and all who are with her in her house shall be spared, because she hid the spies we sent” ... When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so every man charged straight in, and they took the city.  
(Joshua 6:16,17b, 20)*

***Although the battlefield is not the same, the weapon of victory is always faith*** – “By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the people had marched around them for seven days.” (Heb. 11:30)

*For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. (2 Cor. 10:3-4)*