

Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

Read

Joshua 6:1-7

Discuss

1. Were you familiar with the story of the conquest of Jericho before this week's sermon? If so, when and where did you first learn this story? How has the story been inspirational to you?
2. Do these ancient stories of conquest and violence trouble or concern you? How do we make sense of their presence in the Bible? Are there ways you have found to come to terms with their inclusion in the biblical record? (Note: We will be addressing this issue the week after Easter, so don't fret if your group doesn't come to any conclusions about this!)
3. Why do you think God instructs the Israelites to march around the city for seven days? What is the significance of this plan? Why do the Israelites have to perform this ritual for one week? Why doesn't the miracle occur on the first day?
4. Where is the Ark of the Covenant in this story? What does the role of the Ark in this story teach about the presence of God and how we should respond to that presence?
5. Where have you seen incremental practices--done over time--make a positive difference in your life? What have you done consistently that has made your life better?
6. Is there a challenge you are presently facing that you could begin to take incremental steps to address? What small things could you begin to do now, which if done consistently, might help you solve your problem or overcome your challenge?
7. Is it possible that when we take the first step, or when we begin to work a plan, those actions on our part help us see how God is already working on our behalf? Have you experienced this before in your life? When and how?



Wrap Up:

Commit to pray for each other during the coming week.