

Old Testament

Mission Arlington • Mission Metroplex Curriculum • 2009

Through the Old Testament in Two Years

Part One



Created for use with young, unchurched learners
Adaptable for all ages including adults

Old Testament

<p>The Sun Stands Still</p>	<p>Last week we learned how God gave Joshua specific instructions. The Israelites obeyed and believed God. The walls of Jericho fell just as God said they would. God is faithful to what He says He will do.</p>
<p>Joshua 9-10</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Read the Bible</p> <p style="text-align: center;">READ: Joshua 10:1-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)</p>
<p>Memory Verse:</p> <p>If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone. (James 1:5 NIV)</p>	<p>Begin With Prayer</p> <p>Joshua listened to God and did things God’s way. One time, though, he did not ask God about a decision. A group of people from a town called Gibeon came to Joshua and asked to make a peace treaty with him. They lied and told Joshua that they were from a far away town. (Joshua 9:1-15)</p> <p>Joshua did not talk to God to see what God wanted. Instead, he made a peace treaty with the people. Later, they discovered that the people lived near them! They had deceived Joshua. Joshua realized that he had made a big mistake by trying to do things on his own. Now he had to honor the peace treaty with the people of Gibeon. (Joshua 9:16-27)</p>
<p>Lesson Goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understand that Joshua did not consult God about the treaty with the people of Gibeon. 2. Learn that the people of Gibeon deceived Joshua and the elders of Israel. 3. Understand that Joshua and the elders made a mistake. 4. Recognize that God was faithful to protect Israel. 	<p>Sure enough, neighboring towns decided to fight the people of the town of Gibeon because they made peace with Joshua. The people came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace treaty. They shared that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had a treaty. (Joshua 10:1-6)</p> <p>Joshua kept his agreement and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. As they were marching, God told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win. (Joshua 10:7-8)</p> <p>When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused and Joshua was able to defeat them. (Joshua 10:9-10)</p> <p>Many ran along the road to escape Joshua’s men. As they ran, Joshua’s men pursued them. As they ran, God rained down huge hailstones from</p>

The Sun Stands Still — Bible Facts

1. The people of Gibeon asked Joshua for a peace treaty.
2. Joshua and the elders agreed to the peace treaty.
3. The Israelites discovered that the people of Gibeon lied to them.
4. The people of Gibeon asked Israel to defend them.
5. God told Joshua to fight because the enemy would not win.

the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies along the road. (Joshua 10:11)

Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory. (Joshua 10:12-15)

The Bible says, "The sun stopped in the middle of the sky. It didn't go down for about a full day." (Joshua 10:13) Joshua had recently done wrong by not seeking God before agreeing to a treaty with the people of Gibeon. But, Joshua talked and listened to God and obeyed Him. God listened to Joshua and granted his prayer request. The Bible says, "There has never been a day like it before or since." (Joshua 10:14)

God wants us to seek His advice on the decisions that we make. "If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone." (James 1:5 NIRV)

Review

1. **What did the people of Gibeon ask Joshua?** (The people of Gibeon asked Joshua for a peace treaty.)
2. **What did Joshua do?** (Joshua and the elders agreed to the peace treaty.)
3. **What happened next?** (The Israelites discovered that the people of Gibeon lied to them.)
4. **What did the people of Gibeon ask next?** (The people of Gibeon asked Israel to defend them.)
5. **What did God do?** (God told Joshua to fight because the enemy would not win.)

Do You Know Jesus?

We make mistakes just like Joshua. These mistakes, sins, separate us from God. God loves us and does not want us to be separated from Him. So, He made a way to get rid of the sin. He sent His Son, Jesus, to take our punishment for all our sins. Jesus died on a cross to pay the punishment for all our wrongs. We must tell God we are sorry for our wrongs and promise to do things God's way. God will forgive and wipe away all our sin. If you want to know how to believe in Jesus and ask Him to stay with you forever, talk to us about it. When Jesus comes to stay with you, He changes your life and helps you do things God's way.

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take our punishment.
3. Ask God to help you seek Him for advice.
4. Pray for friends and family members who need to seek God for advice.

Application

Joshua and the elders did not consult God about the treaty with the people of Gibeon and they were deceived. The Israelites made a mistake, but God was faithful to protect Israel. God wants us to seek His advice on the decisions we make. If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. He will give it to you. God gives freely to everyone. (James 1:5 NIRV)

Planning for the next week:

Deborah — Judges 4-5

Preschool Lesson

Read the Bible

READ: Joshua 10:1-15 (Hold your Bible open throughout the story.)

Teachers: Make a sun puppet to tell the story

Hi! I'm Mr. Sun. I want to tell you an amazing story that happened to me a very long time ago. Joshua made a peace agreement with the town of Gibeon. That means that they would not fight them and they would help if someone else tried to hurt them.

One day, several kings decided to fight the people of the town of Gibeon. The people came to Joshua and reminded him of their peace agreement. They shared that Joshua must help them fight these enemies since they had a treaty.

Joshua kept his promise and helped the people fight off their enemies. He took his best fighting men and marched all night to fight the enemies. (Make marching stomps on the floor.) As they were marching, God told Joshua that he did not need to be afraid. He told Joshua that they would win. (Raise your arms in victory!)

When they arrived in the town of Gibeon, they surprised the enemies. God made the people become confused and Joshua was able to win.

Many ran along the road to escape Joshua's men. (Run in place.) As they ran, Joshua's men pursued them. God rained down huge hailstones from the sky. The hailstones were so large that it killed the enemies along the road.

Something even more amazing happened also. While Joshua's men were fighting, Joshua prayed to God. He asked God to make the sun stand still until they had won the victory. Believe it or not, it stopped in the middle of the day and didn't go down until almost a full day had passed.

God listened to Joshua and answered his prayer. He hears us, too, and listens to our prayers. Let's take time to pray to God and tell Him thank you for loving us and taking care of us.

Sing a song to the tune of "Itsy Bitsy Spider."

The enemies of the land came to Gibeon, (Move your finger like you are walking.)

Joshua's people marched to help them out. (March.)

Out came the sun when Joshua prayed (Make a circle with your hands for a sun.)

And Joshua's people won the victory! (Raise your hands in victory.)

Prayer Time

1. Take a moment to listen to God.
2. Thank God for sending Jesus to take our punishment.
3. Ask God to help you seek Him for advice.

Memory verse for younger children

If any of you need wisdom, ask God for it. James 1:5

Learning Activities

- **Memory verse activity** — Make a Sun Mobile. Write the memory verse on the mobile. Check the internet for ideas.

- **Test your memory** — Write key phrases about the story on paper. Make hailstones out of wadded up paper. When that part of the story happens, let the students throw the balls! Set boundaries with the kids before you begin so that they do not get out of control!

- **Taste activity** — Oranges remind us of the big orange sun. Bring oranges to eat or squeeze them into orange juice to drink.

- **Think about it** — Talk about how Joshua's prayer was answered. Make a list of requests for prayer. Share how God hears every request and will answer in the best way. It may be different from what you wanted, but God knows best.

Joshua and the elders learned a lesson the hard way about listening to God and doing things His way. Talk about the importance of praying about the decisions we make.

The Israelites made a treaty with the people of Gibeon so they had to fight to protect them. Talk about the importance of keeping your promises, especially to God.

- **Touch activity** — Make crazy sunglasses. Use colored cellophane as the lens.

Create a Sun Puppet.

Play the "Stand Still Game." Have someone stand still like the sun in today's story. Now time them to see how long they can stand still. The winner is the one who can stand still the longest while others are trying to make him laugh, etc.

- **Run and play** — Bring Styrofoam balls. Let the children pretend they are hailstones. Have one team throw the balls and the other team run away from the balls.

Let one child dress in yellow and pretend to be the sun. Let the others run around the sun. Allow the children to take turns being the sun.

- **Listen** — As the children take time for silence, remind them that God wants us to seek His advice when we make decisions.

- **Sing** — Sing "Have Faith in God," "He Is Able to Deliver Thee," or another song related to the story.

- **Reach out** — During class, pray for kids that did not come today. Ask the children to go with you to deliver the handouts to those who were absent. Take a mobile with the memory verse for them.

Memory Verse

If any of you
need wisdom,
ask God for it.

He will give it
to you. God gives
freely to everyone.

James 1:5

Word Puzzle

Trace the letters.

The people

of Gibeon

deceived

Joshua

Word Search

A B T T R V P K A A J G W J K T
P R D H S K S C L N I O O C S L
S I K S G N A I B B V S S P B J
Y D A O O I O C E E H R H H V D
P S O U F H F O R L N E S B E M
H S R B C T N R T P D E R V P A
S S R E K S H M U A S F I M K S
R E R E D O P E V E U E B E E E
J E N O S L Y I C J C R S P S N
J D A U I T E S K E O G T L N O
N S O E S C E Y D A V S Y S G T
J B S O E I M T A N F E H G N S
G F T D M A V A M L W P N U F L
S C L E R J R E B U F T C A A I
M T N C S N G R D F R P B V N A
H E H Q W V B T D G S T K M P H

GIBEON

ELDERS

JOSHUA

DECEIVED

FIGHT

HAILSTONES

ENEMIES

SUN

TREATY

Word Search

A	B	T	T	R	V	P	K	A	A	J	G	W	J	K	T
P	R	D	H	S	K	S	C	L	N	I	O	O	C	S	L
S	I	K	S	G	N	A	I	B	B	V	S	S	P	B	J
Y	D	A	O	O	I	O	C	E	E	H	R	H	H	V	D
P	S	O	U	F	H	F	O	R	L	N	E	S	B	E	M
H	S	R	B	C	T	N	R	T	P	D	E	R	V	P	A
S	S	R	E	K	S	H	M	U	A	S	F	I	M	K	S
R	E	R	E	D	O	P	E	V	E	U	E	B	E	E	E
J	E	N	O	S	L	Y	I	C	J	C	R	S	P	S	N
J	D	A	U	I	T	E	S	K	E	O	G	T	L	N	O
N	S	O	E	S	C	E	Y	D	A	V	S	Y	S	G	T
J	B	S	O	E	I	M	T	A	N	F	E	H	G	N	S
G	F	T	D	M	A	V	A	M	L	W	P	N	U	F	L
S	C	L	E	R	J	R	E	B	U	F	T	C	A	A	I
M	T	N	C	S	N	G	R	D	F	R	P	B	V	N	A
H	E	H	Q	W	V	B	T	D	G	S	T	K	M	P	H

GIBEON

ELDERS

JOSHUA

DECEIVED

FIGHT

HAILSTONES

ENEMIES

SUN

TREATY

Word Search

F C K B P V L S K S E A
P R J V H A I L N V J S
P R G P M T S F A B C V
B F R R T R E A T Y K F
J R V M P K T D G B V D
M F P K S U N K J M P T
W B M L S T F G B V N D
J F R G S T I L L N R D
S M V D N C S B K Y L D
H K N J J O S H U A K D
F R G S T L N B D V P K
J C R M E N E M I E S T

SUN

STILL

ENEMIES

TREATY

JOSHUA

HAIL

Word Search

F	C	K	B	P	V	L	S	K	S	E	A
P	R	J	V	H	A	I	L	N	V	J	S
P	R	G	P	M	T	S	F	A	B	C	V
B	F	R	R	T	R	E	A	T	Y	K	F
J	R	V	M	P	K	T	D	G	B	V	D
M	F	P	K	S	U	N	K	J	M	P	T
W	B	M	L	S	T	F	G	B	V	N	D
J	F	R	G	S	T	I	L	L	N	R	D
S	M	V	D	N	C	S	B	K	Y	L	D
H	K	N	J	J	O	S	H	U	A	K	D
F	R	G	S	T	L	N	B	D	V	P	K
J	C	R	M	E	N	E	M	I	E	S	T

SUN

STILL

ENEMIES

TREATY

JOSHUA

HAIL

Anagram

DENE

MDIWOS

KAS

DGO

LIWL

LEREFY

VIGE

REEEONVY

SMAEJ

Anagram

NEED

WISDOM

ASK

GOD

WILL

FREELY

GIVE

EVERYONE

JAMES