

Message: “With God All Things Are Possible” by Pastor Gary Hankins, 2/20/22

Description: The story of the crumbling, crashing walls of Jericho in Joshua 6 is one of the most exciting portions of Scripture in all of the Bible! God’s power, might and sovereign control over all things and all people is on full display. These verses ought to deepen our trust, confidence and courage in a God who can do the impossible!

Key Scripture: Joshua 6:15-27

Takeaway / Application: As you walk around the second half of this momentous chapter, see how the Lord uses the themes of Faith, Obedience and Patience to conquer the walls in your own life. Learn from this story that a surrendered heart is needed to follow The Lord’s battle plan—and wait for His strength to be made perfect in your weakness.

- Verse 15 in Joshua 6 says that Israel was to march around the city seven more times on the seventh day. Thus far they had already walked around the city six times—but only one time around each of those days. Now seven! Exhausting. All of the armor and weapons weighing down on you, the physical fatigue, the mental strain, the command to not say a word... this was a bit much it seems. And yet, Joshua and Israel obeyed. Once again God’s people are put to the test to trust God and do exactly what He says. Is this your testimony? Is there an area in your life you need to ask prayer for in your group where you are only partially obeying the Lord?
- Joshua 6:16-22 is a reminder that God keeps His promises. In these verses He keeps His promise to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Israel and Rahab. Can you share with your small group how God has kept His promises to you—even when you doubted and grew weary, He still came through.
- Pastor Gary discussed the challenging question and view that some people have about God in the Old Testament—as being a violent, bloody God, and commanding His people to “*utterly destroy*” the Canaanites (v21) and other ungodly nations. What we often lose sight of, though, in our day of *cultural Christianity*—is the reality that God is a *holy* and *just* God. He cannot dwell with, accept or condone sin—it must be dealt with. And when it comes to these ungodly nations and people groups in the Old Testament who vehemently, arrogantly, defiantly rejected the one true God of Heaven—the only remedy was to wipe them out—and avenge the holiness of a sinless God. Romans 6:23 says, “The wages of sin is death.” The price for unrepentant, undealt with sin is God’s wrath. God is patient—but when His forgiveness and salvation is rejected, the Lord will execute His righteous judgment on sin. Discuss.
- The beauty of Jesus Christ is that He came to take the punishment for our sin. Jesus took God’s wrath for you and me. Read and rejoice in Romans 3:24-25