

Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<b>Lower Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> Nothing stands between us and God's love.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None
<b>BROWNIE BRICKS:</b> Kids build the walls of Jericho with bricks of brownies.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Building blocks	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Butter knives, serving spatulas, wax paper, baking tray, napkins, sealing plastic storage bags, pre-baked pan of brownies
<b>Upper Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> Whatever God may say, we must follow.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles
<b>SHOFAR SNACK MIX:</b> Kids follow God's unusual plan to mix up a tasty snack mix.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Soap, water, towels, cinnamon graham crackers, plate, tray	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Measuring cups, large mixing bowl, small bowl, kitchen scissors, serving spoon, napkins, cleaning supplies, sugar cones, golden raisins, dried apricots, dried apples, mini marshmallows, chocolate chips, oat cereal, pretzel sticks
<b>All Kids</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> God's power crumbles towers!	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bible, Spark Bible
<b>GOD'S POWER CRUMBLE CUPS:</b> Kids crumble ingredients into cups of peach crisp.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Play sand, sand mold, baking tray, water	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Soap, water, towels, oven, colander, oven mitt, muffin pan, serving spoons, dish soap, cloths, broom, dustpan, bowls, ice cream scoop, spoons, napkins, God's Power Crumble Cups recipe (p. 71), canned peaches, cinnamon, nutmeg, flour, oatmeal, sugar, honey, butter, brown sugar



Visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.



**Workshop Focus:** Nothing stands between us and God's love.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit [www.sparksundayschool.org](http://www.sparksundayschool.org) to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Battle of Jericho Storytelling

Greet kids as they arrive. Work together to build a wall with blocks. **Come build with me! Let's make the tallest wall ever!**

As you build, begin a discussion. **What are walls for?** (*making buildings, rooms, spaces, protection from weather*) **Back in Bible times, walls were built around entire cities. Walls kept the people inside the city separate from other people. The walls kept the cities safe. They were like fences around yards.**

When the wall gets knocked down, the people build again. **What kinds of things make walls fall down?** (*storms, wrecking balls, big trucks*) **In today's Bible story, there is a big wall around the city of Jericho. Trumpets make it fall down. Let's read about it in our Spark Story Bibles.**

Distribute the Bibles. **Turn to The Battle of Jericho on page 102. Do you see the wall? Whoa, that's a big wall!** Read the story aloud, pointing out the illustrations.

**Spark Resources**  
Spark Story Bibles

**Supplies**  
Building blocks

**How do you think the people inside the city wall felt when the Israelites were marching around? Look at their faces in the picture.** (*curious, afraid, surprised, confused*) **Why did God's people march around the city wall playing the trumpets?** (*It was God's plan to make the wall fall down; God told them to.*) **It must have seemed silly to parade around playing the trumpets for seven whole days, but it worked! God tore down the walls at Jericho. There are no walls in God's love. Nothing stands between us and God's love.**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Brownie Bricks

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*Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

#### Ingredients (serves 8)

- Pre-baked pan of brownies, 2, 9 x 12-inch (23 x 31 cm; box mix)

**Set Up:** Bake two pans of brownies ahead of time. Allow plenty of time for cooling, but do not cut them. Keep one pan hidden until the end of the activity.

#### Activity Instructions

1. Gather around a pan of brownies. Give kids butter knives to carve the pan of brownies into bricks. **We are going to use these brownies to build the wall of Jericho. Cut the brownies into bricks.**
2. Give kids a roll of wax paper and a baking tray. **Line the baking tray with the wax paper. The wax paper protects the tray. The people of Jericho built the wall around the city for protection from animals, enemies, and sickness.**
3. Layer the brownies to create a low wall across the baking tray. **Build a wall with the brownie bricks you have made. Layer the brownies like real brick buildings.** Point out the brickwork in a room or wall nearby. **See how the bricks hold each other up? That makes a very strong wall. Not too strong for God, though!**

**God gave some silly instructions to make the wall fall down. What were the Israelites supposed to do?** (*march around the city wall for seven days in a row, led by seven priests blowing instruments, shout*) **Would you have followed the silly instructions like God asked?** Accept all responses. **What is the silliest thing you have ever done in the name of God?** Accept all answers. Be ready to share something to kick-start kids' answers. **I've done silly things to make people who are sad laugh.**

#### Spark Resources

None

#### Supplies

Butter knives  
Serving spatulas  
Wax paper  
Baking tray, 15 x 10 x 1 inch  
(38 x 25 x 3 cm)  
Napkins  
Sealing plastic storage bags

**God's people, the Israelites, learned that God keeps promises. The city of Jericho had been promised to them. Most of them were confident that God would provide for them. So they marched.**

4. March in place. **C'mon, march with me! And the trumpets played.** Make your hands into a shofar and blow into them with a trumpeting noise. **Do you remember what the trumpets were called back then?** (*shofars*) **Put up your shofars and play for God!**
5. Lead a parade around the brownie wall in circles, counting as you go and blowing your imaginary shofars. **One, two, three, four, five, six . . . it doesn't look like all of this marching is doing a thing! But the Israelites did not get frustrated. They knew God had a plan, and they kept on going, following God's instructions step by step. March, march, march. Blow your horns!**
6. Circle the wall one last time. **On the seventh day of marching, after the seventh time around the wall, the priests blew their trumpets one last blast . . . doot doo doot doo! The people shouted . . . aaaaaahhhhhh! What happened next?** (*The wall shook, then crumbled to the ground.*)
7. Get volunteers to shake the pan of the brownie wall. **The wall shook. The wall crumbled. The bricks fell apart.**
8. Knock down the wall of brownies. Give it a push to knock it over, if necessary. **The walls of Jericho came tumbling down—no more walls! Nothing stands between us and God's love!**

**Do you think the wall fell down because of all of that marching and horn-blowing? If we followed those same instructions and marched around the church, blowing trumpets, and shouting, would the walls shake and crumble and fall down?** (*no*) **The walls of Jericho fell down because of God's power. God could do it without help from the people, but the people couldn't do it without God. The Israelites followed God's instructions, put their trust in God, and let God's power bring down the wall.**

9. Serve a Brownie Brick to each kid on a napkin. **Enjoy your treats! Don't crack your teeth on these hard bricks!**
10. When everyone has finished eating, pull out another pan of brownies, butter knives, spatulas, and sealing plastic storage bags. **These Brownie Bricks are for our neighbors, outside the walls of our workshop. Let's cut them into bricks and bag them up for delivery. When you deliver your Brownie Bricks, deliver the story of God's power at Jericho, too.**
11. Clean up the crumbly mess.

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**No wall is stronger than God's love for us! Trust God's plan to tear down walls like things that are hard, things that scare us, and ways that we sin.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**Let's create a wall of people. Hold hands in a line as we pray.**

**Dear God,**

**Thanks for loving us so much that you tear down walls for us! Nothing stands between us and your love. Let the walls in our lives come tumbling down!** Lead

the kids to fall to the floor, tearing down the wall of people.

**Amen.**

**Workshop Focus:** Whatever God may say, we must follow.

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Battle of Jericho Storytelling

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**Set Up:** Set out a plate of cinnamon graham crackers on one side of the room and a tray on the other.

#### Activity Instructions

Play a game with kids as they arrive. **Let's see who are the best listeners in this group. Follow my instructions.**

Give a string of silly instructions leading kids to build a wall with the graham crackers. **Spin around three times. Wash your hands with soap and water. Sing "Old MacDonald" while you dry your hands.**

**Pick up a graham cracker. Pass it to the person on your left. Balance it on the back of your hand and carry it to the tray.**

**Stack your crackers on top of each other to build a tall tower. Every time you add a cracker to the pile, stand on one foot and squawk like a chicken.**

#### Spark Resources

Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

#### Supplies

Soap  
Water  
Towels  
Cinnamon graham crackers,  
4 per kid  
Plate  
Tray

Let the chaos ensue. After the tower grows, falls, and is rebuilt, gather around your Spark Bibles. **Thanks for following my silly directions! God gave some silly-sounding instructions once. Let's read about it from Joshua 6:1-20 in your Spark Bibles, page 237.**

Suggest kids use the "Reminds me of . . ." Spark Bible Stickers. **Place this sticker in the margin of your Spark Bible. Write what the story reminds you of.** Allow time for a response.

**Why did the Israelites follow God's silly instructions?** *(They trusted God. They trusted God had a plan for them. They knew that they needed God.)* **Whatever God may say, we must follow! Even something that may seem silly to us can be an important part of God's plan.**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### Shofar Snack Mix

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*Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

#### Ingredients (serves 8)

- Sugar cones, 8
- Golden raisins, 2 cups (303 grams)
- Dried apricots, 6 ounces (170 grams)
- Dried apples, 6 ounces (170 grams)
- Mini marshmallows, 10 ounces (283 grams)
- Chocolate chips, 2 cups (360 grams)
- Oat cereal, 2 cups (46 grams)
- Pretzel sticks, 2 cups (448 grams)

**Set Up:** Make the ingredients and supplies accessible to kids.

#### Activity Instructions

1. Crouch behind the graham cracker wall. **God had promised the Israelites a home on the land where Jericho stood, behind a wall. God gave very specific instructions to Joshua and the Israelites so they could take over the city. The instructions seemed kind of strange, but they followed God's plan anyway. Why did the Israelites do what God said?** *(They trusted God. They knew God had a plan. They knew they needed God to get into Jericho.)*

**I am going to give you specific instructions to make today's snack. I hope you will trust me as the Israelites trusted God! Each time you go to do what I ask, say in unison, "Whatever God may say, we must follow!"**

#### Spark Resources

Spark Bibles

#### Supplies

Measuring cups  
Large mixing bowl  
Small bowl  
Kitchen scissors, 4  
Serving spoon  
Napkins  
Cleaning supplies

2. Give each kid a sugar cone. **These are your shofars. Look back to your Spark Bible to find what real shofars were made of.** (*ram horns*) **What were the shofars used for?** (*The priests blew into them to make music as God instructed.*) **Carefully bite off the tip of the sugar cone to make it like a trumpet.**
3. Get out the raisins. **First, measure the raisins into the mixing bowl. March around the tower of graham crackers one time, blowing your shofars.** (*Whatever God may say, we must follow!*)
4. Open the apricots and apples. **Next, measure the apricots and apples into a small bowl. Use the scissors to cut them into small chunks. March around the tower of graham crackers two more times. Don't forget to blow your shofar!** (*Whatever God may say, we must follow!*)
5. Open the marshmallows. **Dump the mini-marshmallows into the mix. By the fourth trip around Jericho, eyes started to peer over the wall. What do you think the people of Jericho were thinking about the Israelites?** (*silly, weird, scary*) **Take a fourth trip around the wall with your shofars.** (*Whatever God may say, we must follow!*)
6. Stir the mix with the spoon. **The Israelites were stirring up attention.**
7. **Measure the chocolate chips, oat cereal, and pretzel sticks and add them to the mix. Go around the city walls a fifth, sixth, and seventh time.** (*Whatever God may say, we must follow!*)
8. Stir the crunchy mix with your hands to make footstep sounds. **The Israelites kept marching. On the seventh day, after the seventh trip around the wall—one, two, three, four, five, six, seven . . . Joshua stopped the parade.** Stop making the crunching noises.

**The priests put down their shofars, and the people shouted. Shout with me!**

(*Whatever God may say, we must follow! Ahhhhhh!*)

**What happened next?** (*The walls started shaking, then they came tumbling down.*)

9. Gather around the graham cracker wall. Invite kids to knock down the wall and crumble the graham crackers into small chunks. Make sure kids do not have a food fight or waste food. **The wall came down! The wall crumbled! Spoon the wall crumbles into the mix and stir it up again.**
  10. Give each kid a napkin. **Fill your shofars with the snack mix.**
- Your trust paid off. We have a delicious snack. The trust of the Israelites paid off, too. They needed God to bring down the walls of Jericho. Even something that may seem silly to us can be an important part of God's plan. God's power knocked down the wall!**
11. Hold up your cone and lead the group in a cheer. **Hip, hip . . . hooray! Whatever God may say, we must follow! You can even eat your shofar!**
  12. After you've finished snacking, clean up the mess. **Let's clean up the crumbly wall of Jericho.**

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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**The Israelites trusted in God, even when it included marching and shofars. Whatever God may say, we *must follow!* Even something that may seem silly to us can be an important part of God's plan.**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**Strike a silly pose for our closing prayer.**

**Dear God,**

**Whatever you say, we *must follow!* Thank you for the silly stuff that is a part of your plan. Help us to trust you. Use your power to tear down the walls in our lives.**

**Amen.**

**Workshop Focus:** God's power crumbles towers!

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## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### The Battle of Jericho Storytelling

**Set Up:** Pour sand on a baking tray. Put the sand mold and water near the tray for the activity.

#### Activity Instructions

Invite kids to play in the sand. **Have you ever made a sand castle? What did it look like?** Allow time for kids to describe their sand creations.

**What happened to your sand creation?** (*crumbled, fell down, got knocked down*)

Dampen the sand with some water, mold it into a wall, and knock it down. **Sand crumbles.**

Examine the sand. **Sand itself is made from the power of the ocean waves beating against rocks and shells. The waves break them into tiny bits and pieces. Name some other things that crumble.** (*rocks, cookies, dirt*)

Brush off your hands and get out the Spark Bibles. **God's power made a whole wall crumble in today's Bible story, The Battle of Jericho. Turn to page 102 in the Spark Story Bible, and Joshua 6:1-20 on page 237 in the Spark Bible. Follow along as we read.** Read from either Bible.

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

#### Supplies

Play sand  
Sand mold  
Baking tray  
Cup of water

**Older kids, choose a sticker from the back of your Bibles. Invite the younger kids to help you choose one. Which sticker did you pick? Why?** Allow time for discussion.

**What did the Israelites do to bring the wall down?** (*walked around the wall for seven days, priests blew horns, shouted*) **The Israelites did all of this wacky stuff because it was what God told them to do. They followed God's instructions because they trusted that God had a plan and would take care of them. How does God take care of you?** (*gives us caring adults, food, place to sleep, friends, nature*) **The wall fell down by God's power and love.**

## Activate Faith (25 minutes)

### God's Power Crumble Cups

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*Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

#### Ingredients (serves 6)

- Canned peaches, 32 ounces (907 grams), drained
- Cinnamon
- Nutmeg
- Flour,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (75 grams)
- Oatmeal,  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup (60 grams)
- Sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (96 grams)
- Honey,  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup (59 milliliters)
- Butter,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (115 grams)
- Brown sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup (101 grams)

**Set Up:** Soften the butter to room temperature. Drain the juice from the canned peaches. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit (200 degrees Celsius). Make each kid a copy of the recipe for God's Power Crumble Cups, found on page 71.

#### Activity Instructions

1. Make sure kids wash their hands with soap and water. **Let's wash our sandy hands to prepare for cooking.**
2. Give kids spoons and peaches. **It was normal during Bible times to build a wall around a city. This divided the people in a city from other cities and kept out things that might hurt them. Divide the peaches into the muffin cups.**
3. Lightly sprinkle the peaches with cinnamon and nutmeg.
4. Measure the flour, oatmeal, and sugar into a large mixing bowl. Stir six times and count aloud to six. **By the time the Israelites had circled Jericho six days in a row, they had stirred up some interest and concern from the people inside the walls at Jericho. Count with me: one, two, three, four, five, six**

#### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bible  
Spark Bible

#### Supplies

Soap  
Water  
Towels  
Oven  
Colander  
Oven mitt  
Muffin pan  
Serving spoons  
Dish soap  
Cloths  
Broom  
Dustpan  
Bowls  
Ice cream scoop  
Spoons  
Napkins  
God's Power Crumble Cups  
recipe, p. 71, 1 copy per kid

**times they went around the city. I am sure there were mixed feelings about what was happening. What do you think they shouted over the walls to the Israelites?** Accept all responses. (*Go home! You are strange! We are not afraid of you! Are you lost?*)

5. Measure the honey. **Pour in the honey. What did the Israelites say back to the teasing and looks they were receiving from over the wall? Check your Spark Bibles for the answer if you don't remember.** (*They stayed quiet because that was God's instructions.*) **They did not answer the teasing. Instead, they poured their energy into following God's instructions.**
6. Hand out stirring spoons to a couple kids. **Stir the topping until the honey is mixed in. On the seventh day, they circled the Jericho wall seven times. The priests blew the shofars one last time. What was the last step in God's directions to bring down the wall?** (*God's people broke the silence and shouted with all of their might.*) **Shout into the bowl of topping! (Ahhhhh!) I can imagine the people shouted, "Praise God!" Let's shout that together: "Praise God!"**
7. Cut the butter into four or five chunks and toss it into the flour mixture. **The Israelites were in God's hands. Put your hands into the bowl and roll the butter pieces and flour between your thumb and fingertips until it feels crumbly.**
8. Take a ball of the topping and crumble it as an example. **Crumble the topping over each muffin cup of peaches. When the Israelites followed God's plan, God's power crumbled the towers around Jericho. The walls tumbled down to rubble.**
9. Give the kids the brown sugar. **Use your fingers to sprinkle about a tablespoon of brown sugar on top of each crumble cup. The Israelites did not have a sweet life. It had been hard, but they knew God was with them. They knew God would keep the promise to give them the city of Jericho to live in. No, the Israelites did not have a sweet life, but their life with God was sweet.**
10. Bake the God's Power Crumble Cups for 12 minutes, until the fruit bubbles and the topping is browned. While the Crumble Cups bake, clean up the kitchen mess. **All of this crumbling has left quite a mess! Can you imagine what a mess the ruined walls were at Jericho? I wonder how the people cleaned up the rubble . . . We'll start with these simple cleaning supplies: dish soap, cloths, and a broom and dustpan.**
11. When the Crumble Cups are done, remove them from the oven with an oven mitt. Serve the dessert in bowls. Top each with a scoop of vanilla ice cream to speed the cooling process. Give kids spoons and napkins. **God's power crumbles towers! With God's power, Joshua and the Israelites won the battle at Jericho! Enjoy your crumbly dessert.**
12. Give each kid a copy of the recipe for God's Power Crumble Cups. **Take the recipe home so you can make more dessert and tell your family the story of Joshua and the Battle of Jericho!**

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

**The Israelites trusted God. They knew God was with them as they marched through life. God's power crumbles towers like the walls around Jericho!**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**As we pray together, imagine what it looked like to see a whole city wall come tumbling down to rubble. At the end of the prayer, we will crumble, like the wall at Jericho. Let's stand up to pray.**

**Dear God,**

**Thanks for being with us as we march through life. Help us to trust you and follow you, wherever you lead us. Your love and power crumble what we fear.**

**Amen.**

# God's Power Crumble Cups

## Ingredients

- Canned peaches, 32 ounces (907 grams), drained
- Cinnamon
- Nutmeg

## Topping

- Flour, 3/4 cup (75 grams)
- Oatmeal, 3/4 cup (60 grams)
- Sugar, 1/2 cup (96 grams)
- Honey, 1/4 cup (59 milliliters)
- Butter, 1/2 cup (115 grams)
- Brown sugar, 1/2 cup (101 grams)

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees Fahrenheit (200 degrees Celsius). Drain the peaches. Divide the peaches into six muffin cups. Sprinkle lightly with cinnamon and nutmeg. Make the topping by mixing the flour, oatmeal, sugar, and honey. Add in the butter with your hands or a pastry cutter until it feels crumbly. Crumble the topping over each muffin cup of peaches. Top each cup of peaches with a tablespoon of brown sugar. Bake for 12 minutes, until the fruit bubbles and the topping browns. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream on top.

