

## Bible background

Joshua 2

## Aim of lesson

To learn from three people's trust in God whilst in danger.

## Preparation required

Colour one activity sheet. Cut it into four strips. Tape a piece of paper over the 'answer' half of each strip. This should open like a door. You will need paper, tape and colouring materials during the lesson.

## Suggested outline of lesson

1. Begin by asking questions about last week's lesson; then tell the children that when Moses died, Joshua was the new leader of the people, and he was to bring them out of the desert into the new land God would give them. He sent two people as spies to see this new land. Tell the children about the cities in the land the people were going to capture. They had thick walls and strong gates to protect the inhabitants. The walls were so thick that they had houses built in them, and the people who lived in these houses could look out of the windows to see who was coming into the city. The gates were shut at night and the gatekeeper would have known who had come and gone. Say a little about the flat roofs of the houses and how the people used to dry flax (a bit like hay) on the roof.
2. Show the strips one at a time. Tell the story using the rhyme, but stop for fuller explanations as well. Bring out the faith and trust in God that the spies and Rahab showed in such a dangerous situation. They all knew that it was God's will and he would protect them. Explain how Rahab showed her trust by tying the scarlet thread in the window.
3. Go through the pictures again, using the rhyme. Encourage the children to join in the answer each time.
4. Ask the children to colour and make doors for their own activity sheets.
5. Go through the rhyme again together as the children open the doors on their finished worksheet.

## Alternative activities

1. Cut out a spare set of worksheet pictures to sequence. Shuffle and deal out to the group. Ask, "Who has got the first picture? Which comes next?" etc.
2. Make houses out of Lego or boxes. Put some cut up wool, twigs, string or paper to be the flax on the roof. Make some pipe cleaner or play dough people or use small toy figures and 'hide' them underneath the flax.
3. If you have room, try some dressing up and role-play. 'Hide' the spies under a sheet or table.

## Relevance to the children's lives

Teach the children that 'trusting in God' does not mean running into danger, e.g. riding your bicycle into the road or climbing a high wall. It means taking all the care you can as the spies and Rahab did, and doing the things that God teaches us to do even if it is hard, knowing that God will care for us.

## Prayer

Ask the children who would like to pray for God to keep us safe, or you could all say the verse together as a prayer.

## Verse

'Keep me safe, O God.' Psalm 16:1.

## Rhyme

Where did the spies sent by Joshua go?  
They went to Rahab in Jericho.  
Who did the king send to Rahab's house then?  
He sent his soldiers to capture the men.  
Where did they hide while the soldiers looked round?  
Under some flax on the roof they lay down.  
How did the spies escape from the town?  
With a rope through a window the men got down.