

# Remember

Week 4 – August 2

Scripture: Joshua 6:1-27

*Grab your Bible and a few people to connect with. Look up the verses below and share your thoughts. It's that easy!*

**Share:** Would you rather spend the rest of your life living in a houseboat or an RV? Why?

**Read Joshua 6:1-27 together:** Take turns reading if you prefer. Enjoy the different Bible translations we each read.

**Discuss the following context:**

When the Israelites entered the Promised Land, they found powerful people who lived in fortified cities. Consequently, they would not be able to simply walk in and take the land; they would have to conquer it. The first challenge came in the form of the city of Jericho. A city which according to archaeological evidence did not have just one wall, but two. As a result, the city was believed to be impenetrable. The people of God had to decide whether they would they move forward in spite of the uncertainty and challenges, or would once again retreat to safety.

As we move forward as a community, there will be challenges. The question is, will we choose to trust God and move forward to take hold of what He has for us, or will we choose to retreat to what is safe, comfortable and known? God does not ask us to TRUST a strategy, but He invites us to TRUST HIM. Our “obedience” is what matters over the “outcome.” As we move forward, we look with expectancy towards the future, and we do so with courage, trust and obedience over outcomes.

**Share your thoughts about the following questions:**

1. Many of God’s plans are unexpected yet powerful. Have you ever had a time in your life when you felt the plan to navigate something did not make sense only to realize it was more about obeying God? How did He want you to obey?
2. God is responsible to lead and we are responsible to obey. God could have conquered Jericho without the people’s help, but He wanted them to be a part of His work. How do you feel when you consider you have the opportunity to work in partnership with God? Why?
3. Steve Andrews said, *“Success in the kingdom of God is not defined by the outcome but by our obedience.”* We often delay obeying God out of fear, but miss what God has for us when we do. What types of fear stop us from obeying God? What builds courage and trust?

**Pray together:** Ask each other to share what is on your heart today. Remember that God has a better plan, He is responsible for the future, and obedience to Him is more important than the outcome. Thank God for the unity that exists in bringing down walls. Ask Him for unity in the pandemic, justice issues, political climate, and leadership transitions at Kensington.

**Question for Kids and Families:** In Joshua chapter 6 God tells the people to defeat the city of Jericho because it is to become their new home. God also gave the people a plan to do it and the people followed the plan exactly. Jericho was their new home! Do you think the people could have won Jericho if they had followed their own plan? Do you think God’s plan is always better or sometimes better or never better? Why?