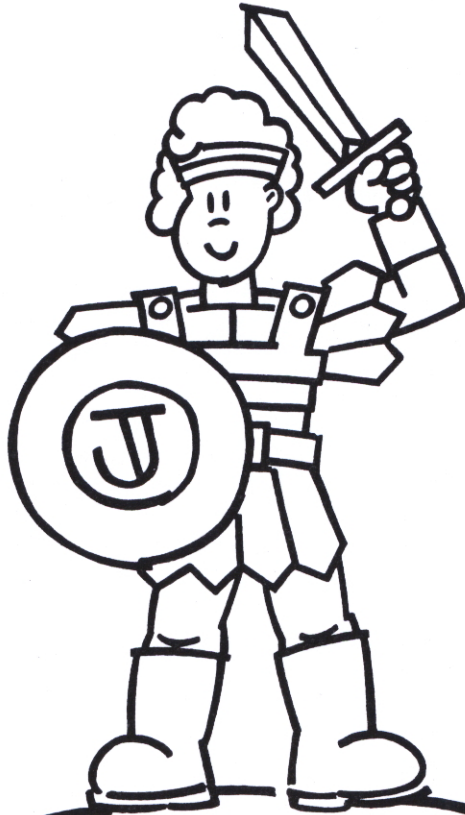


JOSHUA

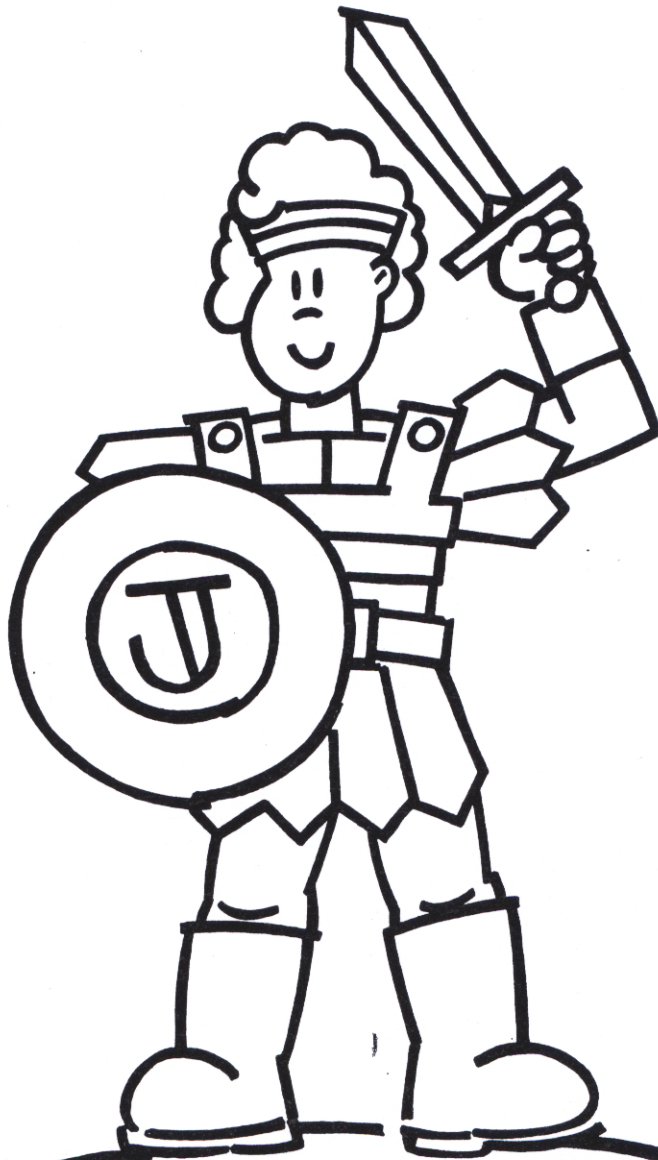


Man of Courage

Joshua's name means *the LORD saves*, or *the LORD gives victory*.

Joshua was the military commander under Moses.

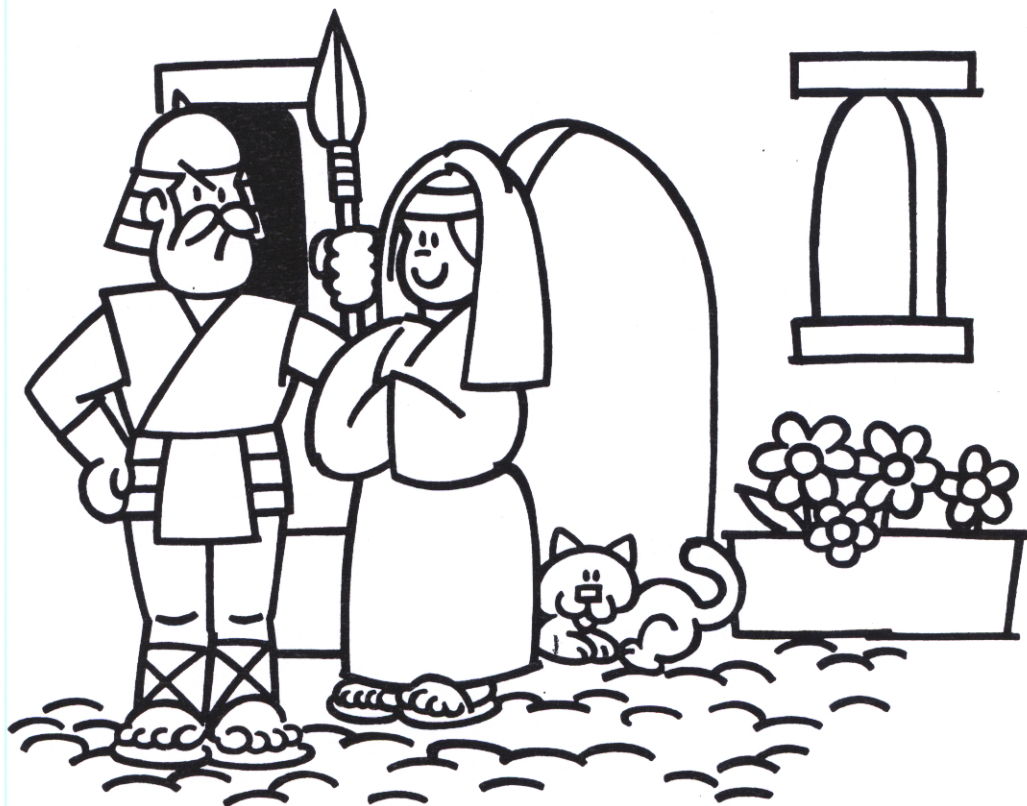
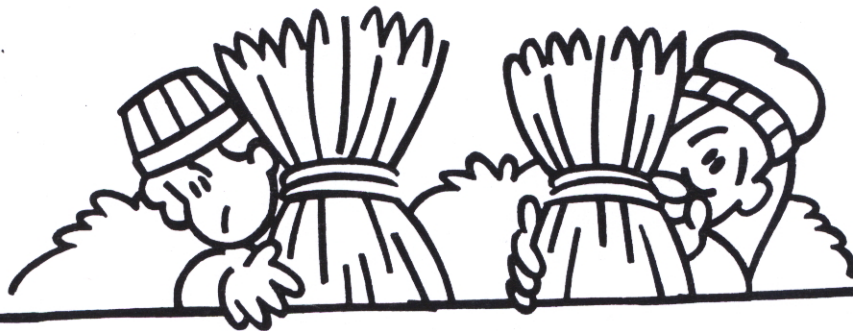
When Moses died, God made Joshua the leader of the Israelite nation.

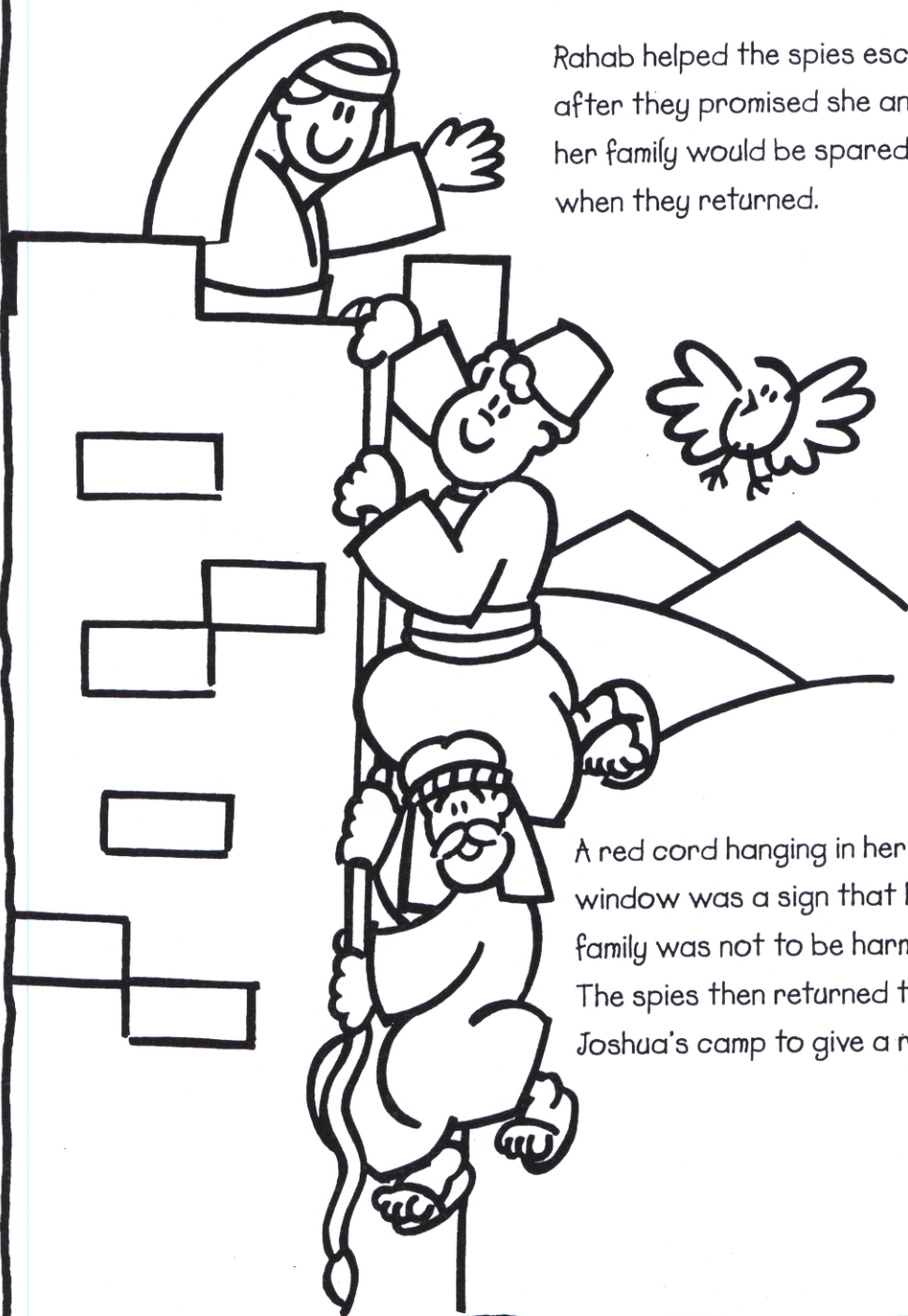


Joshua was a man of courage.
He was not afraid because God was on his side.
God told Joshua to lead the people across the Jordan River.
Joshua obeyed because he trusted God.



Joshua sent two spies to Jericho to see what was happening.
Rahab knew the story of how the Israelites crossed the Red Sea.
She hid the spies on her rooftop when soldiers came looking for them.

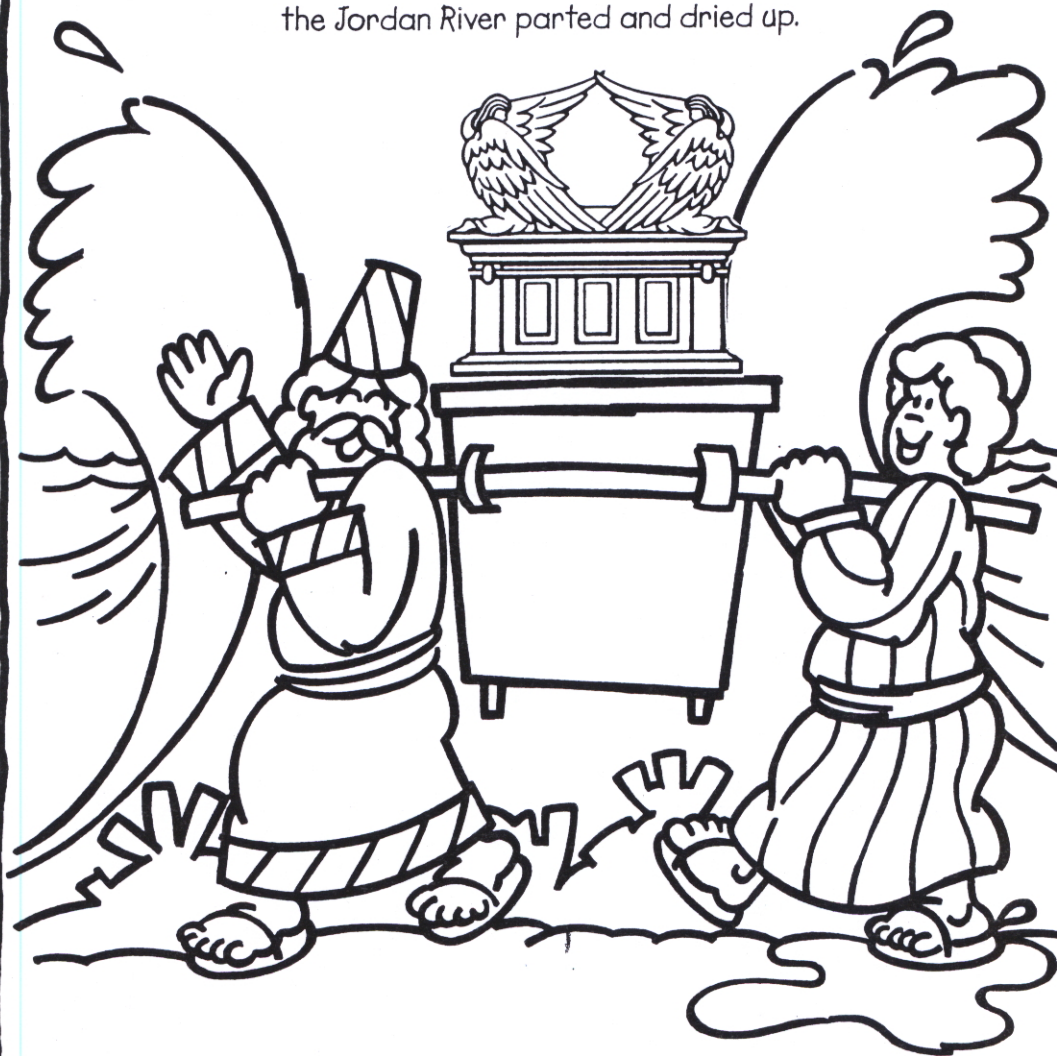




Rahab helped the spies escape after they promised she and her family would be spared when they returned.

A red cord hanging in her window was a sign that her family was not to be harmed. The spies then returned to Joshua's camp to give a report.

The Jordan River was flooded,
but God said to cross it.
Joshua sent the priests, carrying the
Ark of the Covenant, into the river first.
As soon as their feet touched the water,
the Jordan River parted and dried up.



God told Joshua to have men from each tribe take a stone from the middle of the river where the priests stood with the ark. They were to place the stones on the Canaan side of the river. The stones would remind the Israelites that the Lord was powerful.



As soon as the priests who carried the ark touched
foot on shore, the waters flooded the river again.
But the whole Israelite nation had crossed on dry ground.



The Promised Land!

They had finally arrived, after forty years of wandering in the wilderness. They ate fruit, bread and roasted grain. They had vegetables. God had provided—how good He was!

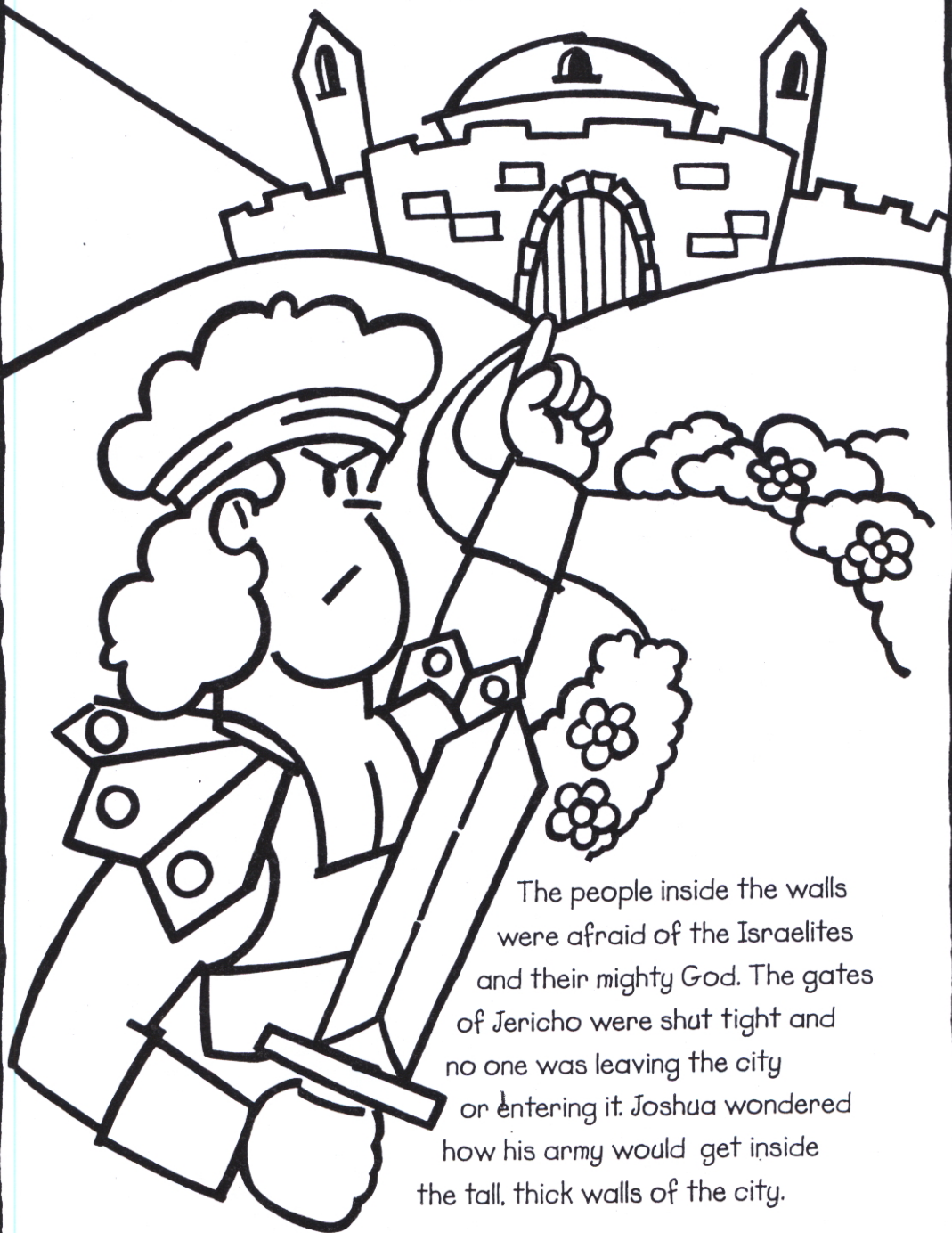


As Joshua looked toward Jericho,
a man appeared in front of him with a drawn sword.
Joshua asked if he was a friend or an enemy.
The man said "I am commander of the Lord's army."



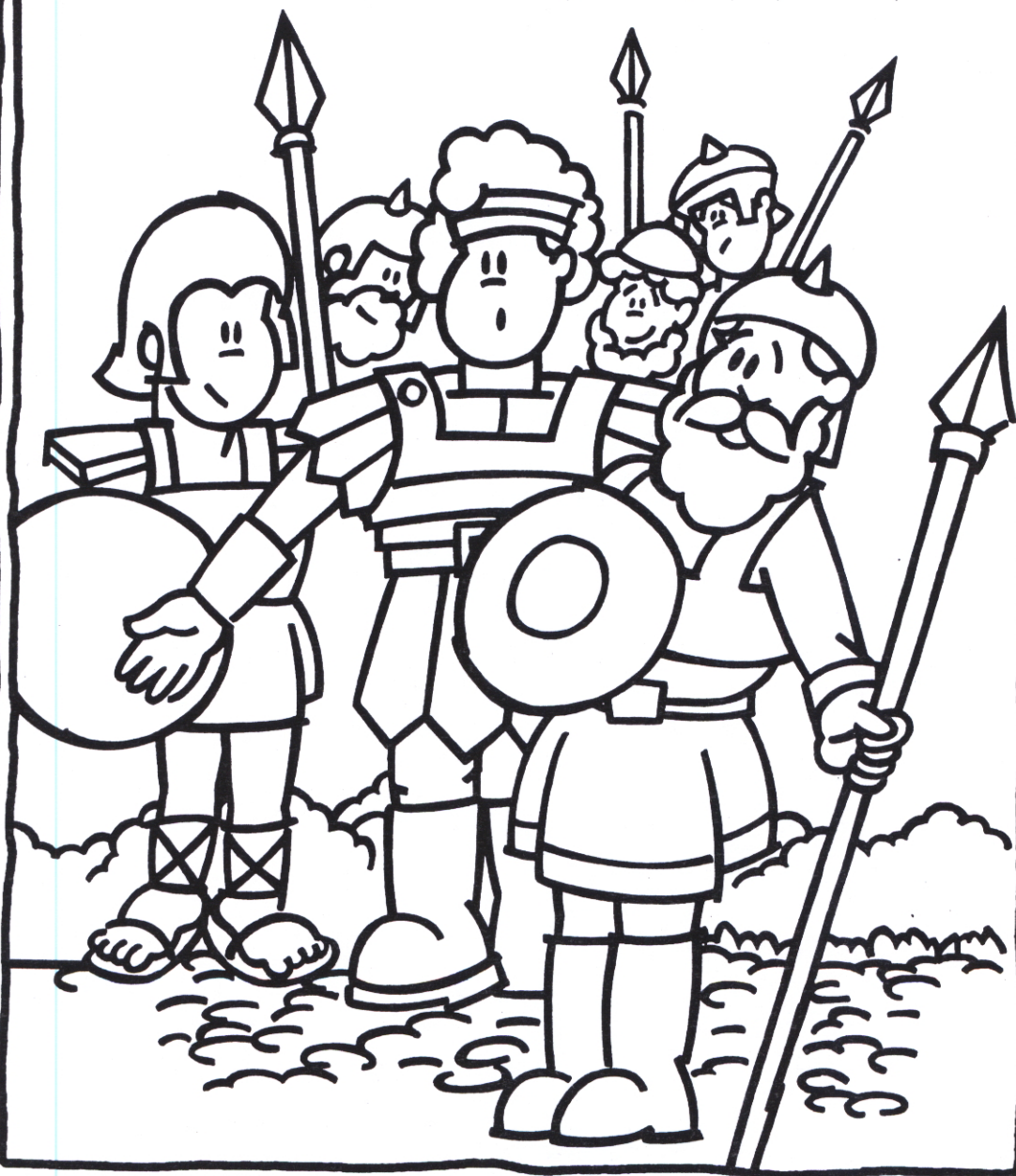
When Joshua heard this he fell to the ground in respect.
He asked "What does my Lord want me to do?"
The commander replied "Take off your sandals, this place is holy."
Joshua took off his sandals and worshiped the Lord.





The people inside the walls were afraid of the Israelites and their mighty God. The gates of Jericho were shut tight and no one was leaving the city or entering it. Joshua wondered how his army would get inside the tall, thick walls of the city.

Joshua didn't have long to wait. God gave him complete instructions. The Lord told Joshua that He would deliver Jericho into the hands of the Israelites. So Joshua went back to camp and told his people God's plan.



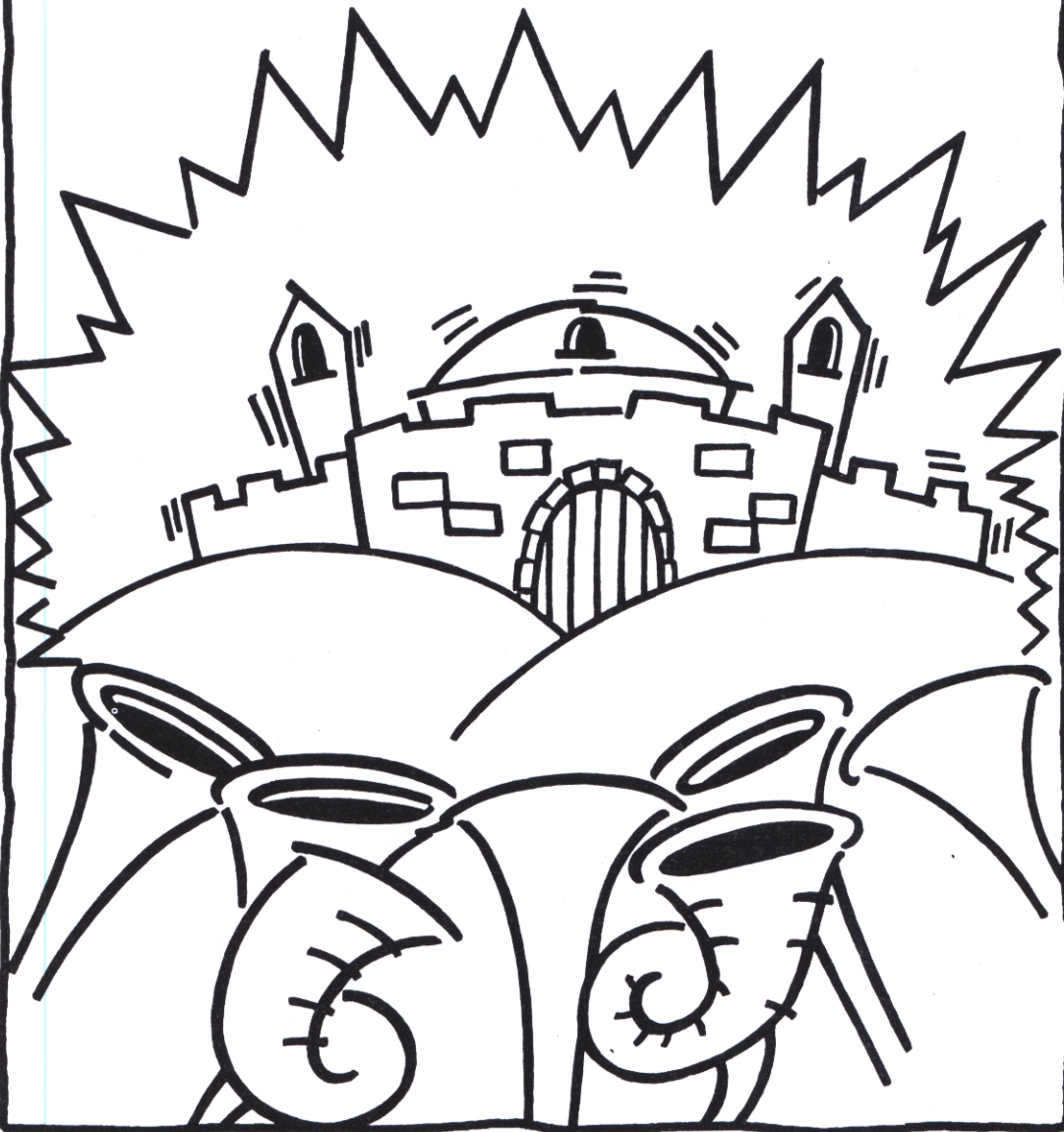
What was the plan? They were to march around the city once a day for six days with all the armed men. The seven priests were to carry trumpets or rams' horns in front of the ark.



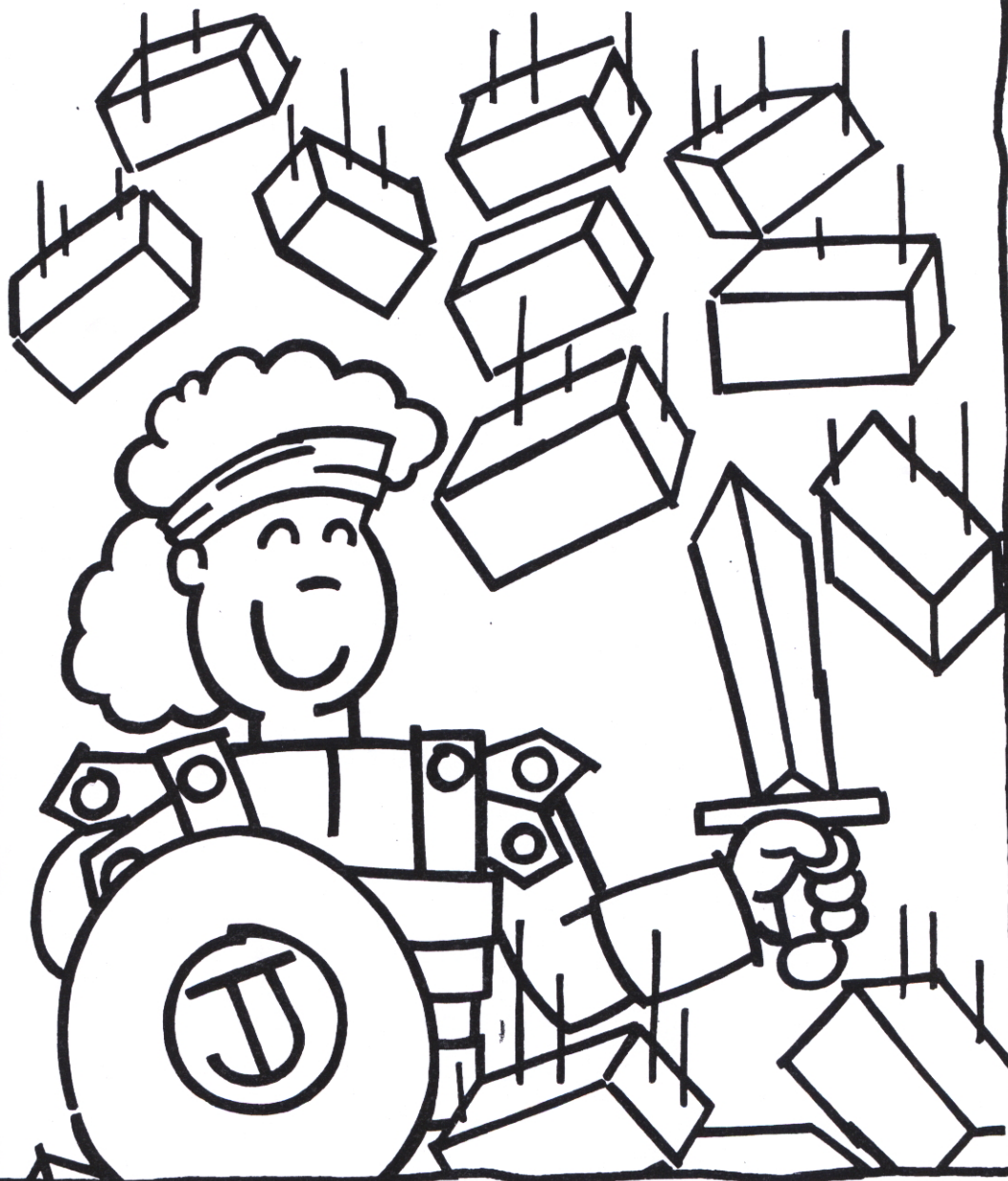
On the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times.

The seventh time around, the priests were to blow the horns.

When they heard a long blast on the horns,
the people were to shout as loud as they could.



The people obeyed God. When they shouted, the walls of Jericho collapsed! Rahab and her family were spared. Joshua was courageous. He became well known over all the land.



Read about Jericho in Joshua, Chapters 1-6.