

ONE CONVERSATION

***Parents:** God had already determined that Joshua and the Israelites would be victorious, so why did He command them to do all of these specific things? What was the point? Why couldn't they simply march on Jericho right away? God had promised that Israel would be His special possession—they would demonstrate His power and glory to all other nations (Ex. 19:5-6). By commanding the Israelites to march around the city these thirteen times, He was showing the Israelites a great kindness—He was teaching them to trust Him. When we trust God, we know that He will accomplish all His purposes and that our job is simply to obey.*

Obedience to God is an essential part of our walk with Christ and how we trust Him daily. Ask your son or daughter what areas it is difficult for them to trust God and follow Him in obedience. Consider areas of your own life where you are learning to trust God more and to be more obedient to His Word and His commands. Emphasize the importance of God's Word and how we must spend time reading and studying His Word in order to grow in our relationship with the Lord.

CENTRAL TRUTH

God will accomplish all His purposes—our role is to obey.

PERSONAL CHALLENGE

- › **Dwell:** Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Take note of what the apostle Paul says about God's plans, purposes, and will. Take some time to consider God's purpose in saving you (v. 7) and the implications of this on your daily life. Look closely at verse 11 and consider how knowing that God works all things according to His purposes might give you confidence to live on mission for Him.
- › **Memorize:** Joshua 4:24
- › **Pray:** Thank God for being strong where you are weak. Thank Him for sending Jesus to die on the cross while you were His enemy because of your sin. Pray that you would grow to trust Him more so that you will live more faithfully and consistently on mission for Him.