



Big Idea:
God offers me the gift of forgiveness through Jesus.

Bible Verse:

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Romans 6:23

Let's get Thinking:

1. If you had treasure you wanted to hide it, where would you hide it?
2. Where did Achan hide his stolen treasures?
3. What are some great gifts you have received?
4. What did Jesus do so that we could be given the gift of eternal life?

THANK HIM FOR THAT!

Challenge:

The Israelites were living in tents all the time that they were traveling in the wilderness – 40 years! What different ways can you think of to build a tent? Blocks? Blankets? Origami? Crackers?

Achan's Sin

Read the Bible:

Joshua 6:18-19 7:1-26

The Israelites had won the battle of Jericho! And in those days, when soldiers defeated a city, they usually got to take the valuable things from the city as a reward for winning the battle. But **God** was the one who had defeated Jericho, so everything in Jericho belonged to God.

Read Joshua 6:18-19 to find out what God had told the Israelites before the battle.

The instructions were clear. But there was one man – only one, who found some things that he decided he couldn't do without. This man, Achan, disobeyed God's instructions and kept a robe, some silver and some gold. Then when no one was looking, he buried them underneath his tent.

Not long after this, the Israelites faced another battle.

Read Joshua 7:4-5 to find out how they were surprised.

Joshua and the leaders were distressed and saddened by their loss! What went wrong?

Read Joshua 7:10-11 to find out what God said to Joshua.

Joshua was shocked! Who would steal from God? He called a meeting for the following day to determine who had done this terrible thing. Still, Achan kept his secret buried.

The next morning, as Joshua went through each tribe looking for the thief, Achan stayed quiet until the very end, when he was singled out and forced to admit that he had sinned against God and the people of Israel.

We don't know why Achan chose to disobey God, but Achan's choice had serious consequences for Achan and the rest of the Israelites. Israel had suffered defeat and the loss of thirty-six men, and Achan and everything he had taken had to be destroyed.

God showed the Israelites that disobeying him makes BIG trouble. Sometimes we might think our sins are so small that they don't matter. But our sins make big trouble, too. Read the Bible verse out loud and think about the gift God has given to us – JESUS! He provides forgiveness for all our sin!