

God's Unconventional Ways

As God led the Israelites into the Promised Land, all they needed to do was obey him. As we study the fall of Jericho in Joshua, we learn that obedience is not always easy or even logical to us. But trusting God's unconventional ways will always honor him, and when we obey, he provides for us better than we could ever provide for ourselves. After the fall of Jericho, the story about Achan demonstrates the risk we take when we depend on ourselves instead of God, and the impact our choices can have on our community. Join us as we discuss the unconventional ways God works in our lives and what they mean for our faith.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- What does it mean to trust God?
- What are some conventional ways that an army can breach a fortified city?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [God's Unconventional Ways](#)

READ [Joshua 6-7](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, as hosts Scott Hozzee and Darrell Delaney discuss God's command for Israel to simply march around the city of Jericho for six days, Darrell says, "you have to be obedient in this situation whether you know what is going on or not, whether you understand what is going to happen or not." What does this kind of obedience look like in your life? Have you experienced a situation when you knew what it would mean to obey God, but it didn't make sense or you didn't understand how it would make a difference? Was it easy or hard to obey God in that situation? What was the outcome of your obedience?
- Have you ever witnessed God do extraordinary things in a seemingly ordinary situation? Have you ever had an interaction that seemed ordinary to you, but God used it to do something extraordinary or miraculous?
- Read [1 Corinthians 1:26-31](#). How does the truth of this Scripture reference help us maintain the "right perspective" and give God the glory he deserves?
- Achan disobeys Joshua's command to devote all the spoils of Jericho to God and instead keeps some for himself. Like Achan, how are we sometimes tempted to keep for ourselves what belongs to God? Would you agree with Darrell's assessment that this demonstrates a lack of faith or lack of trust in God's provision? Why or why not?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Joshua 2:8-11](#), [Revelation 7:9-10](#), [Genesis 12:1-3](#), [1 Corinthians 1:26-31](#), [Exodus 20:17](#), [Luke 15:1-7](#), [Proverbs 3:5-6](#), [Galatians 5:13-26](#)

CONCLUSION

At the end of the episode, Scott and Darrell observe that, like sheep, we tend to drift off course little by little rather than suddenly, all at once, due to a single intentional decision. Darrell says, “That is what happens when you have challenges and you don’t acknowledge the temptations...if you acknowledge the Lord, he can actually help you; but the plan is for him to bless you the whole time, and you don’t need to make your own shortcuts.” In what areas of your life are you at risk of slowly drifting from God? When do you find yourself most tempted to create your own shortcuts?

Read [Galatians 5:13-26](#), especially verses 22-26. Which Fruits of the Spirit would most help you strengthen your faith and guard against the slow drift away from God that you identified above? Pray for the Holy Spirit to cultivate those fruits in you so that you can heed the wisdom of [Proverbs 3:5-6](#) to “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.”

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