Following God in the Face of Challenges #7 in a Series on Victorious Living, Joshua 5:13-6:27 Pastor Chico Goff

What were the challenges facing God's people in Joshua 6?

faith is... (Hebrews 11:1, 6; 2 Cor. 5:7)

What is the biggest challenge in life I am facing right now?

When facing life's challenges, remember...

1. We are already <u>victorious</u>.

(Joshua 2:9-11; Exodus 23:27; Romans 8:28-31; John 16:33)

"Then the LORD said to Joshua, 'See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men'." Joshua 6:2

2. God's strategies sometimes __seem strange_.

"Have seven <u>priests</u> carry <u>trumpets</u> of rams' horns in front of <u>the ark</u>. On the seventh day, <u>march around the city seven times</u>, with the priests blowing the trumpets." Joshua 6:4

Three Strategies for Following God

- Make our own plans and hope they succeed.
- Make our own plans and ask God to bless them.
- Ask God for His plans and do what He tells us.

Key Point: God delights in showing <u>His strength</u>

through our weakness.

(Jn 12:24; 2 Cor. 12:9-10; 2 Chron 16:9; Is. 55:8-9)

3. Life's obstacles are overcome by <u>obedience</u>.

(Proverbs 3:5-6; 1 John 5:4-5)

"When the trumpets sounded, the people shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the people gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed..."

Joshua 6:20

"It was by faith that the walls of Jericho fell after the people had marched around them for seven days." Hebrews 11:30 (NCV)

4. God deserves <u>the glory</u> for the victory.

"The city and all that is in it are to be <u>devoted to the LORD</u>." Joshua 6:17 (NIV)

Why is God's judgment seem so harsh at Jericho?

- Jericho <u>belonged</u> to God (Joshua 6:17)
- The Canaanites were <u>unspeakably wicked</u> (Deut. 18:9-12; Lev. 18:27)
- God had <u>patiently</u> been waiting for the people to turn to Him (Joshua 2:8; Gen 15:6; 2 Peter 3:9)
- God is faithful to redeem anyone who has <u>faith in Him</u>. (Joshua 6:23-24, 25-26)