

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

JOSHUA 5:13-6:5 · JULY 16, 2023 · PASTOR YOUSEF HASHWEH

¹³Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

¹⁴"Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

¹⁵The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

⁶Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

²Then the Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in."

(Joshua 5:13-6:5)

SERMON OUTLINE:

What is a great encounter with God?

Opportunities often come disguised in disaster. How is this true for Joshua?

LESSONS:

There is victory in _____.

There is victory in _____.

How can this story from the Bible relate to you?

How can you overcome obstacles in your life?

Other thoughts/reflections from the sermon:

DIG DEEPER:

- If you would like to know more about Middle Eastern cultures and how you can pray, visit operationworld.org or prayercast.com where you can select individual countries and learn how you can pray for them.
- If you'd like to learn from a seasoned worker who served in the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe, read Evelyne Reisacher's book *Joyful Witness in the Muslim World: Sharing the Gospel in Everyday Encounters*.