

# Joshua And The Battle Of Ai

## Key words

City: Clap and shout, city.

March: pat knees.

Run: pat knees quickly.

Soldiers: Attention.

God: Hallelujah.

After Joshua and his soldiers (attention) had captured the city, (clap- city) of Jericho they were very happy. In fact they had the biggest party you have ever seen.

"We're the best soldiers (attention) ever," they said. "We captured the great city (clap - city) of Jericho!"

But Joshua said: "Now don't get big headed about this. After all what did you do? You just marched (pat knees) around the city (clap - city) walls and blew your trumpets. It wasn't you who made the walls come tumbling down, but God (Hallelujah) and don't you forget it!"

The trouble was though that they did forget it. In fact the soldiers (attention) marched (pat knees) around as if they were the best ever, and they forgot all about the help that God (Hallelujah) had given them.

Now there was a little city (clap - city) called Ai. Some of the soldiers (attention) went to have a look at it. "It'll be easy to capture," they said. "Just send a few of us. If we can capture Jericho, we can capture this little city (clap - city) eazy peazy!"

So a few thousand soldiers (attention) went marching (pat knees) off to Ai. But when they got there the men of Ai came running (pat knees quickly) out of the city with their swords waving. The soldiers (attention) got very frightened, and in no time at all were running (pat knees quickly) away as fast as they could. There was a terrible battle and the Israelite soldiers (attention) were well and truly beaten.

The soldiers (attention) ran (pat knees quickly) back to Joshua.

"What happened! What happened!" they asked. "They beat us! That can't be right!"

"Well you see," said Joshua, "we've all forgotten the most important thing. It's not us that win the battles, but God (Hallelujah) . Now we all need to say sorry to God (Hallelujah) and start again."

Joshua prayed all that night, and then sent his soldiers (attention) out to Ai. He divided his army in half. One half marched (pat knees) round to the city (clap -

city) gate while the other half sneaked through the woods round to the back of the city (clap - city).

When the men of Ai saw the Israelite soldiers (attention) at the city (clap - city) gate, they grabbed their swords and ran (pat knees quickly) out to fight them. The Soldiers (attention) started to run (pat knees quickly) away with the men of Ai following. Meanwhile the other soldiers (attention) marched (pat knees) into Ai through the back gate and captured the whole city (clap – city).

When the men of Ai saw what had happened they knew they had been beaten and ran (pat knees quickly) off as fast as they could, and the other soldiers (attention) marched (pat knees) back to Ai for another party. But this time they remembered to give thanks to God (Hallelujah) who had helped them win again.

"I will always follow you God (Hallelujah)," said Joshua. "Me and all my family."  
"And we will too!" shouted all the soldiers (attention).

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