

Date: 21 July 2024 | **Speaker:** Ps Benny Ho | **Topic:** Conquering Your Jericho | **Scripture:** Joshua 6:1-27

SPIRITUAL OBJECTIVES

At the end of the sermon discussion, cell members will:

1. Reflect about the areas of our lives we need to consecrate before God
2. Be reminded about the importance of trusting and obeying God

SERMON SUMMARY

Ps Benny shares about conquering the walls of Jericho. We will all face Jerichos in life and the key lesson is to trust and obey. Trusting and obeying are intricately linked as our struggle to obey God is rooted in our ability to trust Him. When we truly trust God, we will obey Him!

Canaan is not so much a picture of heaven because in heaven, there are no enemies to overcome. It is a picture of the eternal inheritance of the believer. Jericho is a picture of the things that stands against us as we seek to live in the victory of God.

Ps Benny also shared about strongholds. Cindy Jacobs defines “A stronghold is when we accept as unchangeable something that is contrary to the will of God.” What we accept as unchangeable and contrary to the will of God is a stronghold and a Jericho we need to face.

3 Key lessons from Conquering Jericho:

- 1. It is premised on God’s Promise (Joshua 6:2)**
- 2. It is proven by Obedient Actions**
- 3. It is preceded by Personal Consecration (Joshua 3:5)**

Let us learn to trust and obey even as we continue to conquer our Jerichos!

SERMON RECAP

Ps Benny shares about conquering the walls of Jericho. We all face our “Jericho’s” in life. It appears in various forms - A difficult situation, a fractured relationship, an insurmountable problem, a stubborn sin, an on-going addiction and an overwhelming obstacle. The solution is to trust and obey! Trusting and Obeying are intricately linked as our struggle to obey God is rooted in our ability to trust Him. When we truly trust God, we will obey Him!

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3 key lessons from Conquering Jericho –

1. It is premised on God's Promise (Joshua 6:2)

- Biblical archaeology indicates that the walls of Jericho fell outward and not inward. It became a ramp that the soldiers could scale and enter the city directly (Joshua 6:5)!
- It was a fulfilment of God's promises, and His promises are "Yes" and "Amen" in Christ (2 Corinthians 12:20).
- What God promises, He delivers! The power of God is present to pull down every stronghold in Jesus' Name, we will need to go back to the Word of God and do what it says!

2. It is proven by Obedient Actions

- Trust in God is proven by obedient actions. *Though the promise was given by God to the Israelites, the eventual victory will be an act of God and the Israelites are still expected to do their part.* The Israelites had to march and go around the city, blowing the trumpet for the first 6 days and had to shout together on the 7th day!
- We learn to trust by learning to obey. The greatest challenge in life is **NOT** the *stone walls* we face outside but it is the *self-will* inside! What are the aspects of our lives we need to let go of and to obey God in?
- Through the story of Jericho, we see how God worked through the obedience of His people. What the Israelites did at Jericho made no military sense! It was possible that even the Israelites were not allowed to speak on the first six days of walking around the wall so that no one could speak any negative words to cast doubt. The enemies were also confident that walls of Jericho would stand strong as there were two sets of walls. However, whatever is impossible with men is possible with God. Through this, it showed how the Israelites needed to hear and obey (James 1:22).

3. It is preceded by Personal Consecration

- The Conquest of Joshua 6 is rooted in the Consecration found in Joshua 5. Joshua consecrated himself when he met with the Lord (Joshua 5:15). *The pilgrimage to trust and obey God's promises begins with a posture of worship.*
- The starting point of any breakthrough is in the Presence of God! Consecration comes before conquest (Joshua 3:5). After the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they built a memorial as an act of worship and they were also circumcised after. Consecration came before and after every breakthrough moment. Let us bring our Jerichos to the Presence of God!

As we reflect on the 3 key lessons above, it is important for us to remember that consecration is rooted in the redemption of Jesus Christ. Faith is based on who God is and what God says (Hebrews 6:11-12).

Ps Benny also shared how *periods of faith are built through being in God's waiting room*, where we continue to earnestly wait for God's breakthrough. There, our faith is tested, our soul is sanctified and our discipleship is deepened.

He also shares about how waiting has both a passive and active dimension – the passive dimension is where we wait in surrender – quiet and yielded upon the sovereignty of God and the active dimension is one where we are actively holding onto the promises of God and refusing to let go.

Let us learn to trust and obey even as we continue to conquer our Jerichos!

Discussion Questions



1. Consecration comes before Conquest. What are some Jerichos that we have faced or will face in life? Share with the cell and discuss on how we have allowed situations to become strongholds in our lives. What are some aspects of our lives we will need to surrender to God before we can conquer them?
2. Ps Benny shared about God's waiting room and how there is both an active and passive dimension in waiting. Share your own experience of being in the waiting room and how it has or had been a moulding process for you.
3. We are called to trust and obey. Share a time where you saw God's provision as you sought, trusted and obeyed Him or a situation where you are seeking Him for breakthrough in this season.

Consider dividing the group into micro-groups for a deeper time of sharing as well as praying for the following items:

1. Sermon Application

- Pray for God to reveal to us what are some strongholds we hold on to and to seek Him for breakthrough
- Pray that we will continue to submit our will to God as we trust and obey in Him.
- Pray that we will desire a greater intimacy and knowledge of God

2. World

- Continue to pray for the various nations that are at war:
 - a. Russia and Ukraine
 - b. Myanmar (Civil War) – Pray for the situation where military service was made compulsory for man and woman between the ages of 18 and 35.
 - c. Israel & Hamas
- Continue to pray for countries that have an escalated conflict situation:
 - a. Japan, China and the Philippines in the South China Sea
 - b. North & South Korea
- Continue to pray for countries recovering from recent natural disasters:
 - a. Taiwan (Typhoon Gaemi)
 - b. Indonesia (Volcanic Eruption)
 - c. South East Asia – Heatwave across various countries
 - d. Canada (Wildfire)
 - e. Guangdong, China – Flash floods
 - f. India – Heatwave
- Pray for Singapore
 - a. Pray for PM Lawrence Wong and his cabinet as they begin a new chapter for Singapore
 - b. Pray for a stability in the cost of living in Singapore
 - c. Pray for the rising number of dengue cases in Singapore
- Other Global Issues
 - a. Pray for the United States of America as they recover from the assassination attempt of Donald Trump
 - b. Pray for the UK as a new Prime Minister and Cabinet governs the nation
 - c. Pray for Thailand as it goes through a case seeking the dismissal of its Prime Minister
 - d. Pray for the political situation in France
 - e. Pray for the shortage of surgeons situation in Malaysia

3. Opportunities for Outreach

- € Ask the Lord to bless us as we step out to reach a pre-believer.
- € Ask the Lord to grant you opportunities to reach out to a non-believing loved one, friend, or colleague this week as we seek to mature in Christlikeness.

1. **Join the RiverLife Choir.** The choir meets twice a month for rehearsals and serve once a month at our English service. As a RiverLife Choir member, you will:
 - a. Lead God's people in worship. This is a calling, a joy and a privilege!
 - b. Develop the voice God has given you to praise Him
 - c. Be part of a team and get to serve with fellow RiverLifers

You will be invited for an Audition & Interview on Sat, 17 Aug upon sign up.

Sign up now: rlc.sg/serve (Kindly select 'Choir' under 'Worship & Music Ministry' in the signup form.)

2. **Alpha At RiverLife (Chinese Run).** 24 Aug – 26 Oct 2024, 9 In-Person Sessions. Alpha brings you on a journey to explore life's biggest questions - Who are you and why are you here on earth? If there's a God, what would you ask Him? All your questions about life, faith and God are welcomed at Alpha. Join us at our next run!
 - Find out more: rlc.sg/alpha-chi
 - Sign up online: rlc.sg/join-alphachi

3. **New Sermon Series (7 July – 25 August): The Book of Joshua: Walking with God in Faith & Obedience.** As we continue to trek the Israelites' journey after entering the Promised Land, we realise we are far from the end of their story. There were still battles to fight, enemies to defeat and above all – there was a choice to be made. A choice to obey God fully and walk with Him daily. A choice to believe the Promise Keeper would not fail them. This series of messages will help us recognise that we're presented with the same choice today. In Joshua's last words to the people he led, he urges them to cling tightly to the Lord and be very careful to love Him. Perhaps he knew it would be a choice they had to make every day to see God's promises fulfilled. Every day, we have a choice to make. Would we choose to love God, trust in Him and walk in His ways? When we do so as His people, our lives will testify of who God is. This second part of our series based on the book of Joshua covers chapters 5 to 24.

Catch up on Part 1 here: rlc.sg/joshuapart1

4. **The Courtship Journey. Sun, 28 Jul | 11.30am-1pm Victory Chapel (Level 1)** This initiative helps you to identify what to look for in a future spouse, as well as to understand the different stages of a courtship. Through this initiative, we hope couples will have a better starting point in their future marriages. There is no cost to join the gatherings. Register: rlc.sg/courtshipjourney
5. **40.Day 2024.** 1 Jul - 9 Aug. For 40 days starting 1 Jul until Singapore's National Day, all believers in Singapore, regardless of church or denomination, are invited to unite in prayer for our nation. We encourage those who are committing to pray and convicted to fast, to also fast a meal a day for the 40-day period. This year's three prayer emphases are:
 - Turning Singapore Godward
 - Winning the Youth
 - Blessing the Nations

Subscribe to the following for daily updates starting Mon, 1 Jul:

- Website: lovesingapore.org.sg
- YouTube: youtube.com/lovesingaporeonline
- Facebook: facebook.com/lovesingapore.org.sg
- Instagram: instagram.com/lovesingaporeonline

6. **SPYCES (Spiritual Parenting of Young Couples). 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 Sep 2pm-5pm. Online via Zoom Fees: \$10 per participant.** SPYCES is a series of five workshop sessions where participants will connect with fellow parents in the same season, and learn biblical and practical ways of relating to their children and grandchildren.

For more info: rlc.sg/spyces-info

7. **Outing to Singapore Garden Festival by Caleb Ministry.** This seeker-friendly outreach outing is specially organised for seniors aged 55 and above, as well as their family members. It is suitable for pre-believers or unchurched believers you are currently reaching out to. We will be having lunch together at Olive Vine before attending the Singapore Garden Festival. There will be a short sharing of the gospel over lunch.

Sat, 10 Aug 10.45am-2pm

10.45am: Fellowship & Lunch (Olive Vine Pasta Fusion, #B1-17 Marina Square)

12.30pm: Singapore Garden Festival (Suntec City Convention & Exhibition Centre, Levels 4, 7, 6)

Specially Discounted Rates

Include lunch & admission to Singapore Garden Festival

Eligible for local residents based on age in NRIC

- Seniors above 60 & Children below 12: \$35 per pax
- Those above 12 & below 60: \$40 per pax

**Our Caleb Ministry staff have kindly set up a booth outside Victory Chapel (Level 1) this Sun, 2 Jun should you need assistance in signing up for the event.*

8. **RiverLife Missions.** Mission trip schedule for 2024 is out now on our Missions website! Discover how you can sow into the nations this year: rlc.sg/missions

- YA Gatherings (For Young Adults in their 20s). First Saturday Every Month, 5pm-8.30pm Victory Chapel (Level 1).**
The YA Gathering is a space where young adults can get together to connect and build community. This gathering is made up of two components – Community Conversations & Communal Dinner – both with a focus on relationship building and life conversations. If you are interested in joining the gatherings and would like to find out more, connect with us on our Telegram Channel: [rlc.sg/ya](https://t.me/rlc.sg/ya).

Gathering Dates: 3 Aug, 7 Sep, 5 Oct, 2 Nov

YA Camp: 5-7 Jul

Christmas Outreach: 14 Dec

- RiverLife Prayer Meetings.**

- *RLC Prayer Room.* Tue, 8-9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Livestream: rlc.sg/rpr-watch)
- *Revive Nights.* Wed, 8pm – 9.30pm, Victory Chapel. (Livestream: rlc.sg/revivenights)

We encourage you to set aside every Wednesday for a time of fasting.

- Quarterly Calendar for Key English Adult Congregation Events**

**Some dates are tentative and subjected to change. Stay updated via our digital bulletin and our social media channels for the latest information.*

Quarter 3	Quarter 4
<p><u>July</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 Jul – The Courtship Journey <p><u>August</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03 Aug – YA Gathering • 03 Aug to 3 Oct – Alpha Run #2 • 04 Aug – Leaders Equipping • 10 Aug – Caleb Ministry Gathering: Outing • 11 Aug – Water Baptism Service #2 • 17 Aug – Parents Gathering #3 • 24 to 25 Aug – RLC 33rd Anniversary Weekend, RTF (Round Robin) <p><u>September</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 07 Sep – YA Gathering • 14 Sep – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 01 to 15 Sep – Marriage Preparation Course #3 • 01 to 29 Sep – SPYCs • 06 to 15 Sep – Equipping #2: Numbers • 14 Sep – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 22 Sep – EA Mid-Autumn Lunch Outreach • 21, 22, 28 & 29 Sep - RTF Activation 	<p><u>October</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 05 Oct – YA Gathering, Water Baptism Class #3 • 06 to 20 – Marriage Preparation Course #3 • 12 Oct – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 13 Oct – Discipleship @ Home for Pre-School Parents (Parents Equipping) • 16 to 23 Oct – Feast of the Tabernacles • 19 Oct – Fun Day (Youth) • 26 Oct – Local Outreach (Youth) <p><u>November</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 02 Nov – YA Gathering • 7 to 9 Nov – Ministry Orientation Camp for Sec 1s (Youth) • 9 Nov – Caleb Ministry Gathering • 10 Nov – Discipleship @ Home for Primary School Parents (Parents Equipping) • 10 Nov – Water Baptism Service #3 • 23-25 Nov – Marriage Retreat <p><u>December</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 Dec – YA Christmas Outreach, Caleb Ministry Gathering • 19 to 21 Dec – Youth Conference • 21-22 Dec – Christmas Outreach Weekend • 28 Dec – Parents Gathering #4

Ministry & Opportunities



1. The 9M Ministry.

This ministry provides prayer support for expectant mothers on their 9-month journey of pregnancy. Sisters-in-Christ who are fellow RiverLifers are assigned as Prayer Buddies to walk alongside mums who sign up to receive prayer support.

- Receive Prayer Support: rlc.sg/9m
- Provide Prayer Support: rlc.sg/serve

2. Missions Microsite.

Discover how you can go, give and pray for the nations. Let's make a difference in the nations together! For more information, visit rlc.sg/missions.

3. RiverLife Cares Opportunities.

Enquiries/Registration: rlc.sg/serve-rlcar

4. Prayer Ministry.

If you require prayer ministry for any issues you face (eg. fear, worry, etc), you can sign up for RiverLife's RTF ministry: rlc.sg/rtf

1. Bible Reading Plan.

The church has provided 3 undated Bible Reading plans that will serve as a resource for those who wish to follow a Bible Reading plan. Link: rlc.sg/brp

- 2 Year Chronological Bible Reading Plan.
- 3 Year Bible Reading Schedule (Alternating readings between Old and New Testament passages)
- Redemptive Historical Bible Reading Plan (At your own pace, focusing on the redemption story)

2. RiverLife Podcast.

The RiverLife Podcast allows you to listen to RiverLife content anytime, anywhere! The link to go to is rlc.sg/podcast or simply search 'The RiverLife Podcast' on Spotify.

3. Spiritual Growth Resources.

We have put together a curated list of recommended resources for the RiverLife family. These resources (books, articles, podcasts and videos) are recommendations for the various spiritual growth stages as you seek to grow deeper in the River of God this year. You can access them at rlc.sg/resource. This list will be continually populated throughout the year.

4. Testimony.

If you have a testimony to share, you can write to us at stories@riverlife.org.sg to share with us your testimony as an encouragement to others.

5. Stay Connected with RLC.

Follow us to stay updated on latest church news and happenings.

WhatsApp Broadcast: rlc.sg/wachannelinvite

Telegram Channel: t.me/RiverLifeChurch

Facebook & Instagram: [@riverlifechurchsg](https://www.facebook.com/riverlifechurchsg)

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