

Title: My Word Is My Bond - Joshua 6 10-20

Read:

¹⁰Joshua had given orders to the people, "Don't shout. In fact, don't even speak—not so much as a whisper until you hear me say, 'Shout!'—then shout away!" ¹¹⁻¹³He sent the Chest of God on its way around the city. It circled once, came back to camp, and stayed for the night. Joshua was up early the next morning and the priests took up the Chest of God. The seven priests carrying the seven ram's horn trumpets marched before the Chest of God, marching and blowing the trumpets, with the armed guard marching before and the rear guard marching after. Marching and blowing of trumpets! ¹⁴On the second day they again circled the city once and returned to camp. They did this six days. ¹⁵⁻¹⁷When the seventh day came, they got up early and marched around the city this same way but seven times—yes, this day they circled the city seven times. On the seventh time around the priests blew the trumpets and Joshua signaled the people, "Shout!—God has given you the city! The city and everything in it is under a holy curse and offered up to God. "Except for Rahab the harlot—she is to live, she and everyone in her house with her, because she hid the agents we sent. ¹⁸⁻¹⁹"As for you, watch yourselves in the city under holy curse. Be careful that you don't covet anything in it and take something that's cursed, endangering the camp of Israel with the curse and making trouble for everyone. All silver and gold, all vessels of bronze and iron are holy to God. Put them in God's treasury."
²⁰The priests blew the trumpets.

Think:

Do your mates trust you? Do they know that whatever you say you will do? If I walked into your college or school tomorrow and spoke to your mates, what would they say about you? In this passage, Joshua is making good on the promise his men made to Rahab. He says leave her alone. Joshua has done what Jesus would later tell us to do, he has let his yes be his yes. In other words, he has done what he said he would do. The way we are with other people is so important that Jesus said that there is no need to dress things up, just do what we say we will do. If we say we will pray for someone, then pray, better not to say we will do it at all if we are likely not to do it. If we say we will look out for a lonely person at school, then look out for them. If we say we will do something and we don't, then what are we showing others about Christians? No need to swear on the Bible or say "I promise," we just need to do it, or not bother saying it. We just need the words that come out of mouth be our bond. Being a Christian isn't as easy as people make out, is it?

Pray:

Lord I know that I will fail, that sometimes my actions will fall short of my words. At those times Lord please help me be motivated to improve rather than get depressed. Amen.

Action:

Oddly enough if you are anything like me you might need to say yes a little less, so that your word can be your bond. Are you so busy with stuff that you couldn't possibly do it all? Is there something that you need to cut out? Take some time to ask God, do it now. Bye.