Achan Hides His Sin

Lesson 84

colour this picture

Read this story in the Bible:
Joshua 6 v 17-19; 7 v 1-5, 20-22

God had given the Israelites a command just before they attacked the city of Jericho. "No one must take anything from Jericho to keep for themselves. If they do, I will not help you fight your enemies." Everyone knew about this command. But a man called Achan disobeyed. He saw some lovely things and took them, and hid them in his tent. No one else knew what he had done, but God had seen. He always sees what we are doing!

The Israelites thought the Lord would help them win the next battle against the city of Ai, just as He had helped them before. But God did not help them! He had said He would not help if they disobeyed, so He didn't help them. 36 men were killed, and the Israelites ran away.

Joshua, their leader, was very upset. Why hadn't the Lord helped them? He didn't know about Achan's sin. Joshua prayed to the Lord, and He told Joshua that someone had sinned. Joshua must find out who it was, otherwise God would not be with them any more.

Next day Joshua made everyone parade past him. God told him which family to pick out, and then which man. Achan confessed what he had done. They found what he had stolen in his tent. Then Achan and the whole family were put to death. Sin is very serious!

We are all sinful and deserve God's anger. But if we confess our sin to Him, and ask for forgiveness trusting in Jesus, He will hear us. That is wonderful! Thank the Lord Jesus for dying to take away our sins.
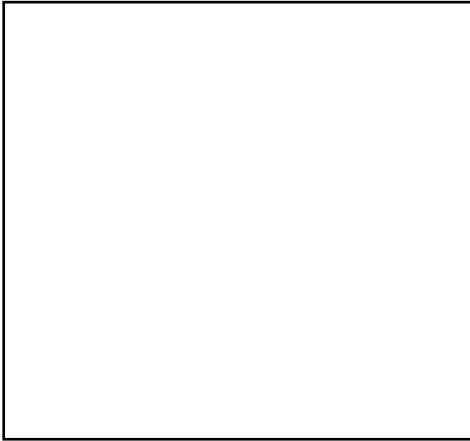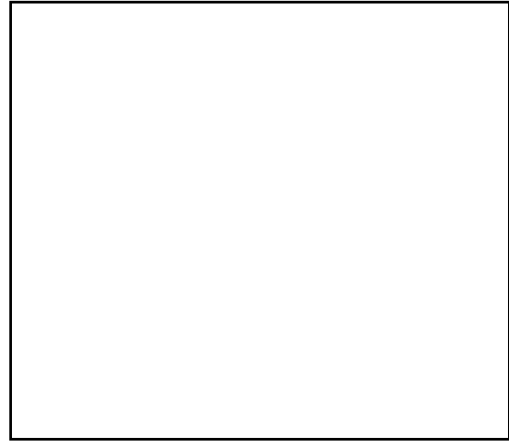
Achan's Sin

I saw ...   I wanted ... I took

Draw one of the items Achan took in each of these boxes.

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A beautiful piece of clothing

Silver coins
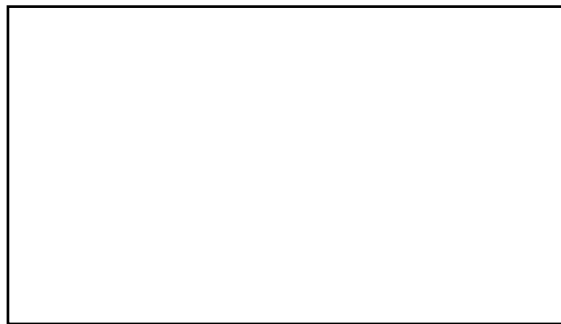
A bar of gold

Where had Achan hidden these things? ....

Can we hide anything from God? ....

Who had Achan sinned against? ....

When we realise we have sinned, what can we do? ....
....

A verse to memorise:

"You are the God Who sees"
Genesis 16 v 13(NKJV)