



Session 2 Homework: A Case for Hope and the Prevention Template

Jericho was a formidable city. It was surrounded by immense walls—thick enough that homes were actually built into them—and accessible only through the city gate. As the Israelites emerged from 40 years in the wilderness, it was their first main obstacle, the strongest fortress in the land of Canaan and the key to taking Western Palestine.

As formidable as Jericho was, God had plans for conquest and transformation. In fact, for God, the work had already been done. Before any battles began, He told Joshua, “See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor” (Joshua 6:2 ESV). There was no question as to the outcome of Israel’s attack on Jericho, and on the seventh day, “the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they captured the city” (Joshua 6:20 ESV).

Svay Pak was known as the global epicenter of sex trafficking for pedophiles. Its streets were lined with brothels, peddling not only adults but the very youngest victims for sexual exploitation. Community members not only tacitly accepted the trade but participated in it—selling their own children to pedophiles who came from all over the world.

Just as Jericho was taken by faith that God would go before them, Svay Pak has undergone profound transformation through Christians trusting that God would do the work. While the work is by no means complete, Svay Pak has seen traffickers turn from making thousands of dollars every month to making an honest wage in construction because they have given their lives to Jesus. Parents have repented and send their children to schools rather than brothels, and young women who were previously exploited in brothels have found healing and a viable living in employment centers where they receive a living wage, healthcare and continuing education.

The change is palpable. Both of these cities have been radically transformed because believers trusted, listened and obeyed God’s command to follow Him. They marched, they shouted, and they sacrificed to see the walls come down.

This week, consider how you view your own city, your own region, and the problem of trafficking that exists right where you are. Do you see the problem as formidable? Is it a city that cannot be taken, that has so far descended into depravity that it is irretrievable? Or do you see your city with eyes of faith, hearing the voice of God and willing to obey and sacrifice?

God told Joshua that He had conquered Jericho already, but that did not mean that Joshua did not have a role. In faith, Joshua and the Israelites had to march and obey God’s strategy before the walls would come down.

In the next several sessions, we discuss in more detail the components of the trafficking prevention strategy. In order for sex trafficking to be prevented, you must be willing to sacrifice, to give of your

time, energy, and resources, and to listen and obey God in how He tells you to participate in this fight. In short, you must be willing to march and yell to see the walls fall down.

This week pray about the following:

- That God would expand what is already being done in Svay Pak to the rest of the world for His glory.
- That you would have the ears to listen and obey God's instructions for you as you continue through this training.