Praying in Circles

1. DRAWING CIRCLES
Joshua 6.1-16
cf. Ch.1-4 of the Circle Maker

Key Points:

- Jericho was a huge city and a massive obstacle for the Israelites! But God had made a 400-year-old promise to the Israelites that this land was His, and He was giving it to His people. God still makes promises to His people throughout Scripture - God will come into our lives if we ask Him (Luke 11.9-13), God will give us His peace (Phil 4.6-7), God will save us (Romans 10.9-10), and He will set us free (John 8.36) etc.

- God's plan for delivering Jericho to the Israelites was not obvious. God's plan for us overcoming impossible obstacles that prevent us from receiving His promises may not be obvious either. But that didn't stop Joshua and Israelites from walking round Jericho 13 times in 7 days, in silence! Like the Israelites, who kept circling Jericho for seven days, we keep circling God's promises in prayer.

- Bold prayers honour God, and God honours bold prayers - Prayer gets really exciting when you grasp that you're only one prayer away from a miracle.

Questions:

Conversation Starter
1. What is one of the wildest answers to prayer you have ever heard of or experienced?

Start thinking
2. What makes a prayer bold? Why might God be interested in honouring bold prayers in particular?

Start sharing
3. What's your Jericho? What are the obstacles blocking your journey with God right now?
4. What promise is God calling you to circle in prayer?

Start praying
5. God, we will lift our hands while we're waiting. Even louder than our fears, we will praise You. Because You are good. Jesus, You are so good. Amen!

Start doing
6. Spend some time praying, and sharing with others, one promise that you feel God wants you to circle in prayer.
7. Using a piece of paper (or notebook) and a pen, write down the promise, or scripture, or situation or person, and spend a good 10 minutes praying for it by yourself or in twos/threes. Once you've finished, draw a circle round it. Commit to doing this each day for the next week.