

Main Passage: Joshua 1:1-9

Theological Theme

When God calls people to step out in faith, He strengthens and equips them.

Introduction

What is the most random thing you have memorized?



Why or how is it helpful to commit Scripture to memory? What does this give you that you can't gain from even continual access to Scripture?

1. New Leader (Joshua 1:1-3)

The book of Joshua records history, but it also reveals the truth about God to us. In the first chapter, the children of Israel faced another defining moment. They had wandered in the wilderness until all the adults except Joshua and Caleb died. Moses also died. He was not allowed to lead the people into the promised land due to his own unfaithfulness.



What might Joshua have been tempted to feel in this moment if His focus was not on God and His promises? How does this apply in our lives?



How does faithfulness in small things prepare you for bigger tasks from the Lord? What is an example of this from your life?



Application: What are some things God freely gives His people today that still require responsibility on our part?

2. Assured Victory (Joshua 1:4-5)

The exact boundary of the territory was described by the Lord as reinforcement of His promise. God meant what He said to Moses years earlier about a real land with real borders as the destiny of His people. It was now up to Joshua to lead them into this new place and guide them through the efforts that would be necessary for them to occupy Canaan.



Think about watching a movie where you know the ending or a recorded sporting event where you know the outcome is favorable for your team. How does this change your perspective as you experience the highs and lows of the journey along the way?



How aware are you of God's presence with you each day? How does this impact the way you live?



Application: Where is God calling you to step out in faith? How does the promise of His presence change your perspective on this situation?

3. Strong and Courageous (Joshua 1:6-9)

These verses give a good picture of successful leadership under God's guidance. The Lord called Joshua to be bold in Him. As a leader, it was necessary that Joshua recognize where he would find the strength he needed to fulfill God's call. He could only find the bold courage that was vital for this task in God. Even a great leader like Joshua needed encouragement to rely on the Lord and not on himself.



Why would the coming challenges tempt Joshua to rely on his own strength or that of the people? How would a focus on God's Word guard against this?

When have you sought to meditate on God's Word? How did this affect you?



Application: What is an area of your life where you need to be strong and courageous? How will you focus on God's Word to seek His wisdom and equipping?

Conclusion

How will you be intentional about prioritizing the Word of God daily?



How have you let fear keep you from stepping out obediently in faith? What needs to change?



What issue are you facing currently that you need to follow Scripture's guidance on? How can we support one another in this as a group?