

Joshua 1:1-18 “Strong and Courageous” (1/7/2024)

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

READ Joshua 1:1-18

Note: Previously Moses had sent out spies (including Joshua) to check out the promised land and they reported, “We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey...However, the people who dwell in the land are strong and the cities are fortified and very large...We are not able to go up against the people for they are stronger than we are. The land through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants and all the people what we saw in it are of great height...we seemed like grasshoppers.” (Numbers 13:27-28, 31-33)

1. Read Deuteronomy 34:7-13 along with Joshua 1:1-3 and discuss what may have been Joshua’s thoughts and concerns regarding replacing Moses in his role to lead the Israelites into the promised land. How do you think you would feel?

2. List the promises given to Joshua by God in verses 1:1-6.

3. In verses 1:7-8, what did the Lord command Joshua to do, and what would be the results of his obedience? How does the centrality of God’s Word make a difference in your life?

4. What promises of God have helped you in the midst of what seemed like an impossible task? What did you learn from that experience about yourself and God?

5. Joshua 1:9 states: Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." After recalling God's promises in question 4, what circumstances are you **currently** facing where you need to remember that the **same God** who gave this command and promise to Joshua gives the same command and promise to you?

6. Previously the Reubenites, Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh wanted to settle in the land on the other side of the Jordan. Moses only allowed this if they agreed to cross the Jordan help the rest of the tribes conquer the land promised to them by God. Note their commitment to the rest of the tribes of Israel in 1:12-18.

How important is commitment to the body of Christ today? What is your commitment to your Christian family?