

Joshua 24:1-31 “Covenant Renewal” (3/17/2024)

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 24:1-31

1. Shechem (which is nestled between Mounts Gerizim and Ebal, is associated with covenant making) is the place Joshua gathered all the people to present themselves **before God** saying, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel...” (24:1-2). Joshua proceeds to speak the Lord’s message to them in **first person**. What does this tell you about God and His personal involvement with the Israelites? How does the fact that God is not aloof and desires to interact with His people impact you?

2. From Joshua 24:6-13 name the things for which Israel should have been grateful. Share about some of the God given victories you have experienced. What are you enjoying that you did not have to labor for?

3. In this passage, Joshua gives an account of how God protected His people. Recall and share of times in your life where God protected you.

4. Joshua exhorted the people to "...fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the river and in Egypt and serve the Lord" (24:14). Explain what it means for believers to:

Fear the Lord:

Serve Him in sincerity & faithfulness:

Put away "gods":

5. The word "serve(d)" appears seven times in Joshua 24:14-15 implying the importance of this concept. Israel must choose whose slave they will be. Joshua chose to serve the Lord. Read Romans 6:17-18, 22 and discuss whom you have chosen to serve and what your choice means?

6. The people declared "we will also serve the LORD" (24:18). Joshua told them to put away foreign gods and incline their hearts to the Lord (24:23). To do this, they needed a change of direction. Give examples of when you experienced the redirection of your heart from something to incline your heart to the Lord. Share the strategies used to help you incline your heart towards the Lord.