

THE PATH OF PROMISE



A Study of the Book of Joshua

by Sue LeBoutillier

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❧ *The Path of Promise* ❧
Joshua

Dear Friend,

Welcome to our Women of the Word Bible Study in the Book of Joshua. I truly believe that studying Joshua is one of the most thrilling and useful Old Testament Bible experiences a Christian can have, and I'm glad that you will be joining us.

Joshua is the sixth book of the Old Testament and the first book we run into named after a person; but don't think of it as a biography. While Joshua is a prominent figure and you'll discover a compelling reason for his name, this book isn't *about* him. This book is about God keeping His promises — that's why our sub-title is ***The Path of Promise***.

As we've been studying the Bible, we've often referred to its history as **God's Unfolding Plan of Redemption**. God's story unfolds with each chapter and book, like an old-school road map on your lap that shows more territory as you unfold each crease. This section of the map not only gives a broader view of history, but helps us make sense of the territory we've already covered.

Centuries before Joshua, God promised the land in Canaan to Abraham as a possession for all his generations to come. Alongside that promise, God also told Abraham that his kids would be in for a prolonged bondage in a country not their own; but it would be followed by a decisive deliverance. Those things happened just the way God said they would, in our previous studies in **Exodus** and **Numbers**.

Now, following a tragic 38-year delay in the Wilderness due to disobedience and lack of faith, Israel finally crosses the Jordan River and claims its inheritance. But the people won't accomplish it with their own cunning or superior military strategies. We'll see God fight their battles and grace them with miraculous blessings. And they will learn even more about their God and His Kingdom along the way.

The Biblical history in Joshua is interesting and brings a fulfillment to God's promises, but the most important thing to note will be that it was not God's intention to deliver them from bondage and then release them to pick and choose their way through life. No! In **Deuteronomy 6:23**, Moses told them, "***He brought us out from there, that he might bring us in and give us the land that he swore to give to our fathers.***" God had a purpose and a plan for the people He had chosen.

God also does not save *us* out of the world in order to just let us go our merry way. He has a purpose and a plan for us. His desire is that we would yield ourselves by faith and step into the life of victory and rest in our spiritual lives that He has planned for us.

Wherever you are and whoever you're studying with, I pray that the Lord will richly bless you, as you dig into the book of Joshua that describes ***The Path of Promise.***

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To watch the video teachings for this Bible Study go to:
ccontario.com/womens-studies
or
[YouTube.com/calvarychapelontario](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU)

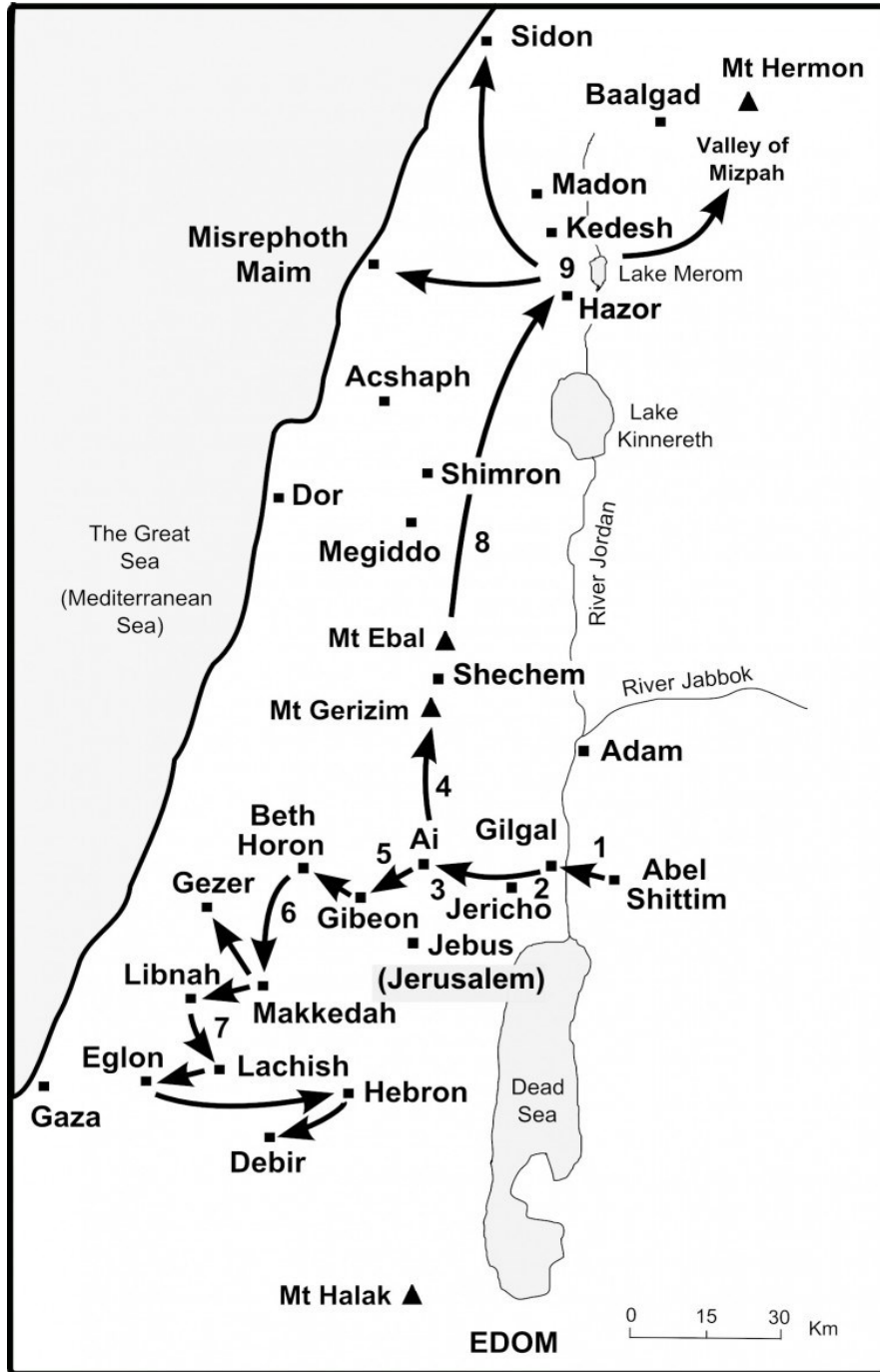
*The best translation of the Bible to use is the one you understand the most easily—and using more than one translation can be a great aid to study! This study guide was created using the ESV (English Standard Version), which may be a helpful tool as you work through your study.



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Map of Israel Entering the Promised Land



Week 1 — Introduction — The Path of Promise

(This page is for note-taking during the Introduction)

The Bible explains the _____ story of _____ plan.

Genesis gives us the history of God's people

from _____ to _____.

In the first half of **Exodus**, we follow Israel

from _____ to _____.

The **Wilderness Way** chronicles Israel's journey

from Mt. Sinai to the banks of the _____ River.

The reason Israel's journey through the Wilderness took 40 years, rather than 11 days, is all because of _____.

Joshua is the first book of the Bible to be named after a person. Joshua's given name was Hosea, which was changed to Joshua.

Hoshea means: _____

Joshua means: _____

God brought the Israelites _____ of Egypt so that He might bring them _____ to the land of victory and rest. God desires to bring us out of bondage to _____ so that we might enjoy the _____ of God. This is the Path of Promise.

THIS BOOK OF THE LAW SHALL NOT DEPART FROM YOUR MOUTH, BUT YOU SHALL MEDITATE ON IT DAY AND NIGHT, SO THAT YOU MAY BE CAREFUL TO DO ACCORDING TO ALL THAT IS WRITTEN IN IT. FOR THEN YOU WILL MAKE YOUR WAY PROSPEROUS, AND THEN YOU WILL HAVE GOOD SUCCESS. — JOSHUA 1:8

Week 2 — Joshua 1-2

Now that we've shared an overview of this book of the Bible, we're ready to begin our verse-by-verse, chapter-by-chapter reading and investigation of the Scriptures.

Can I just encourage you to pray each day before you even read the assigned Scriptures? It doesn't have to be a long prayer, a simple earnest request will do. Ask God to give you focus, teach you, and help you apply what you read. I think you will be amazed at what God shows you!

Day 1: God Commands Joshua

🔗 READ **Joshua 1:1-9**. If those verses sound familiar, it's because we just handled them in our introduction. But simply listening to a teaching can't compare to studying it ourselves, so we'll use this first day of personal study to go over these nine verses for ourselves.

- In the first verse, what was the phrase used to describe Moses' relationship to the Lord?
- What was Joshua's relationship to Moses?
- God's servants die, but God's work never dies, it merely changes hands. What was the assignment God gave to Joshua?

In **v.5**, God described the similarity in His promises to both men when He said, "*just as I was with _____, so I will be with _____.*"

If you were chosen to assume a ministry, or even take over a simple project from someone who had been a spiritual giant in your eyes, what types of emotions might be swirling around in your head?


We get the sense that God anticipated Joshua's emotions as He laid out **instructions** and **promises**:


- Make a list of any **instructions** that you see from God to Joshua:

- Make a list of any **promises** you see from God to Joshua:

- Are there conditions to those promises? If so, what are they?

Read **Psalm 1:1-3** and describe parallels you see with the above instructions and promises.

Go back over these verses and draw a little barbell  to represent *strength* near each occurrence of "*Be strong and courageous*". What is the total count? _____

Now go back and draw a simple cloud  representing the presence of God near each occurrence of *God going with them/being with them/not leaving them*. What is the total count? _____

In one sentence, summarize what God spoke to Joshua:

Memory Verse — Week Two — Joshua 1:9

*“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.”*

Day 2: Joshua Commands Israel

🔗 READ **Joshua 1:10-15**. Joshua is one of only two Israelites, still living at this point, who had already *set foot in* the promised land. I wonder if that gave him some credibility in commanding the nation.

- Summarize his instructions to the whole assembly in **v.11**:

The Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh had asked special permission of Moses in **Numbers 32** to settle right where they were in the land of Gilead, which was on their current side of the Jordan.

- Summarize Joshua's special instructions to them in **v.14-15**:

Go back and write a capital '**P**' near each occurrence of *possess* or *take possession*. In our culture, we often use the phrase, '*take possession*', to refer to a real estate transaction — "*When do you take possession of your new home?*" The phrase implies that all of the upfront work has been done — inspections, title search, financing — all that remains is to get keys, *possess* the house and build memories!

God actually did all of the *upfront work* on this land as well. Read **Genesis 15:7, 18-21**. God promised this very land to Abraham's descendants to possess — it was a promise.

- What types of things has God promised to *you*, if you would simply *possess* the promises?

 READ **Joshua 1:16-18.**

- Summarize Israel's response to Joshua in one sentence:

If you did our Bible Study, Wilderness Way, you remember Israel's response the *first time* they were invited to possess the Promised Land. Remember the 12 spies? One from each tribe? Joshua was one of those spies representing the tribe of Ephraim. Only he and Caleb had brought back a *positive* report of the land.

READ **Numbers 14:1-4.**

- Summarize their response to the spy report thirty-eight years ago:

READ **Numbers 14:22-24.**

- Summarize God's response to Israel's disobedience:

- How do you think the memory of that first disobedience may have shaped their response in **v.18** of this chapter?

Let's pretend for a moment that you're part of this nation. Let's say you're 32 years old at this moment. You were born in the Wilderness. You heard stories of Kadesh Barnea. You always heard that God would provide a way out of the wilderness, and now you hear the command to get ready to leave in three days. How would you feel?

Write out the final five words of chapter one and work on your memory verse for this week:

Day 3: Two Spies and a Prostitute

📖 READ **Joshua 2:1-11**. Look at that! Joshua sent spies into the land just like they had 38 years ago. But this time, he wasn't one of them...

- This time, the number wasn't twelve, it was _____.
- This time, they went in secret.
- This time, Joshua was particularly interested in the city of _____.
- Where did the spies spend the night?

If you went undercover to gather intelligence in the enemy's territory and your overnight choices were: 1) the comfortable Holiday Inn that would certainly record your rental car: make, model and license plate; or 2) a 'don't ask, don't tell, cash only' motel; which one might you choose? Yep, that's probably why the spies went with Rahab. Are you getting the sense that it was less about a choice and more about a divine appointment?

- Summarize Rahab's actions toward the two men of Israel:

- Summarize Rahab's conversation with the king's men:

Let's see if we can pick up some insights about Rahab. Last week, we learned that Joshua's name had been modified from *Hoshea* in **Numbers 13:8**. The first part of Yahweh's name was tacked onto the first part of Hoshea's name to make Joshua.

Look at the first part of Rahab's name — Ra! Think back to what you know about the gods of Egypt and the gods of the Amorites, it's pretty easy to see that she was also given a name association with a god — the pagan sun god, Ra! Maybe she was sold into slavery at a young

age as a temple prostitute, but verses 9-11 leave no question as to which God she wants to be associated with now.

- Summarize what Rahab had already heard about the God of Israel:

- How did she say the inhabitants of Jericho felt about Israel (v.11)?

- Read **Numbers 13:32-33**. Summarize what the spies 38 years ago *assumed* the inhabitants of Canaan thought of them.

Isn't it interesting here that the spies don't seem to *evangelize* Rahab at all? SHE is the one with faith.

- Describe her faith in the God of Israel from these verses:

Do you get the sense that this spy mission was more about saving Rahab than creating a strategy for conquering Jericho? Honestly, nothing more seems to have been accomplished than a plan to spare Rahab and her family. And she wouldn't be the first or the last person whom God singled out and spared before a great destruction.

- What other Biblical people come to mind for whom God seemed to go out of His way to spare? (Check out **2 Peter 2:4-10** for thoughts.)

Work on your memory verse today.

Day 4: A Promise to Rahab

Today's lesson is still all about that one incredible lady, Rahab — her faith, her family and her fervency.

🔗 READ **Joshua 2:12-19**. Most of Joshua chapter two is centered around Rahab, and this isn't the last time we'll hear about her. Chapter six will reveal the conclusion of her story...but then the New Testament Scriptures have even more to add. Look up these passages and make notes about what you learn.

- **Matthew 1:2-6** (Decipher her relationship to King David):
- **Hebrews 11:30-31**
- **James 2:23-25**

Back to our Joshua passage...

- What did Rahab ask of the Jewish spies and whom did she want included in her request?

Now, we know she was a prostitute, so were you surprised to read she had a living mother, father, brothers and sisters? This may also confirm our suspicion that she belonged to an entire people group who were conquered and indentured into servitude at some point.

- At the end of **v.12**, what specifically did Rahab ask for?

The title of our Bible Study is, “**The Path of Promise**”. Throughout God’s Story of Redemption, He made lots of promises. He often coupled a promise with a *sign* of His promise. I think God loves both promises and signs. I think God loves it when we remind Him of His promises. I think that’s what was going on in the life of Rahab.

- Explain how the spies responded to her request in **v.14**:

The spies used an interesting phrase, ‘*our life for yours.*’ This should be very familiar to us as Christians on this side of the cross. We often describe our salvation in terms of an exchange.

Read **Romans 10:10**. It’s a simple and probably familiar verse.

- How do you think Rahab met the qualifications for salvation, based on that verse?

Before the spies went down the wall, they gave her one more set of instructions that would be an opportunity to display her belief in God.

- What sign did they ask *her* to display when Israel came to Jericho?

- Where was her household to gather when that time came?

Read **Exodus 12:13, 22-23**.

- What similarities do you see in both of these sets of instructions?

Work on your memory verse —recite it to someone in your household.

Day 5: Finally, a Good Spy Report

Chapter two has been interesting, but it does leave us wondering if the spy mission was all that successful in terms of *spying*. I mean, it doesn't seem like a lot of really useful information was gathered. But if you were to ask Rahab what the spy mission achieved, she might have said, "Me! It was a great success for me and my family."

This is another example of God's **mercy** in the midst of **judgment**. The iniquity of the people of Canaan had reached its full measure and God was ready to bring judgment. But we know from Scriptures that the eyes of the Lord are always searching throughout the earth for those with faith, those who yearn to know their Creator God. This chapter shows an example of God holding up the whole show for three days in order to save Rahab and her family from destruction.

Let's investigate the end of the chapter...

READ Joshua 2:20-24

- What additional condition did the spies give in v.20 in order to hold up their end of the agreement?

- How did Rahab respond?
 - Her Words:

 - Her Actions:

- Is there anything you find inspiring about her words and actions?

- How long did the spies hide out?

READ **Deuteronomy 31:7-8** to remember God's promises to Joshua.

- When the spies returned to Joshua, what was their report?

- What effect do you think this may have had on Joshua to help him walk out God's calling for his life?

It's really such a simple thing to encourage each other in the calling that God has put on our lives. Perhaps we should finish up this week by planning to be like those two spies and bring a word of encouragement.

Check out these two passages and then ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to affirm someone's spiritual task in life.

- **1 Thessalonians 2:11-12**

- **Hebrews 10:25**

AND HE BROUGHT US OUT FROM THERE,
THAT HE MIGHT BRING US IN
AND GIVE US THE LAND
THAT HE SWORE TO GIVE TO OUR FATHERS.
— DEUTERONOMY 6:22-23

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. Read **Deuteronomy 7:1-4**. Why do you think God had the right to tell Israel to take over the land of Canaan and destroy the current inhabitants?
2. In **Psalm 119:60**, David said, "*I hasten and do not delay to keep your commandments.*" How was this true of Joshua as well? In what area of your life is this a current word for *you*?
3. The people of Jericho had no knowledge of Yahweh, no law to understand His character, no sabbaths or feasts to teach the story. How do you think Rahab came to know the God of Israel?
4. Take a moment to consider that *you* may play the role of a spy in this world, being sent by divine appointment to someone who is searching for God, but quite isolated in their quest. Are you willing to step into the life of someone like Rahab to confirm the truth of God?
5. Rahab's instructions were to display a mark of identification, which would separate her from the general inhabitants of Jericho. She was to shelter under that mark. In one sentence, how would you liken that to the saving of a modern-day believer?

Week 3 — Joshua 3-5

The spies returned, Joshua was encouraged, and the people spent three days preparing their supplies. They finally left Shittim (which meant Acacia grove), only to be confronted with an impossible obstacle — the Jordan River! Few among them remembered the Red Sea 40 years ago, but this obstruction was similarly daunting.

Day 1 — Preparing to Enter the Land

🔗 READ Joshua 3:1-9.

- How many days did Israel camp and stare at the swollen Jordan?
- What might have been going through *your* mind if you saw this obstacle between you and the place God instructed you to go?
- Is there any indication that Israel was fearful or wanting to turn back?
- After contemplating the impossibility of crossing that river for three days, what instructions were given to the people about *how this should look* on the **outside** (v.3-4)?
- What instructions did Joshua give about *how they should look* on the **inside**? What word is most significant in v.5?

Nothing in the text hints as to what they were to do to accomplish *consecration/sanctification*. Look up this word in a Bible dictionary and write what you think that instruction would have meant to you if you were in that camp. What action might you have taken?

- Who was to carry the *ark of the covenant of the Lord* in front of the people (v.6)?

READ **Numbers 4:15**. Which clan of priests carried the ark on their shoulders through the entire Wilderness journey?

CONSECRATE
YOURSELVES,
FOR TOMORROW
THE LORD
WILL DO
WONDERS
AMONG YOU.

- What did Joshua want these men carrying the ark to do when they arrived at the bank of the river?

As we progress through our Christian journey, God often assigns tasks in such a way that we face difficult or seemingly impossible obstacles. Maybe you're facing a *Jordan River at flood stage* sort of obstacle. What do you find most inspiring in this chapter to help you move forward in faith?

Memory Verse — Week Three — Romans 6:4

*We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death,
in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

Day 2 — Believing in Miracles

In my imagination of this passage, I see Joshua standing on a large boulder, waiting patiently until the feet of the priests are inches from the water. Then he turns his attention to the people, who in turn, lean forward to catch his every word above the rush of the river.

🔗 READ **Joshua 3:10-17**.

- List some important aspects of this day that Joshua wanted them to be aware of and consider at this moment:

- What sign were they to look for to be assured *that the living God was among them and He would drive out all their enemies (v.13)*?
- Explain how that sign was fulfilled (**v.15-16**):

On the map on p.5, draw a row of blocks to represent a **dam** near the town of *Adam*.

- What was the state of the riverbed as they crossed over?

TODAY I WILL BEGIN
TO EXALT YOU IN
THE SIGHT OF ALL
ISRAEL, THAT THEY
MAY KNOW THAT,
AS I WAS WITH
MOSES, SO I WILL BE
WITH YOU.

When God delivered Israel from bondage in Egypt, a great body of water stood between them and Mt. Sinai, where God would reveal His character and His law. Now, as God led His people from the defeat of their wilderness wanderings into the victory promised in the land of Canaan, another body of water needed to be crossed.

READ **Exodus 14:21-22**. Note any similarities or differences in how God parted the Red Sea for Moses and how God held back the waters of the Jordan River for Joshua.

- What do you find significant when you read **Joshua 1:3** and **Joshua 3:13** together?
- Skim through the whole chapter again and count how many times the **ark of the covenant** or **ark of the Lord** is mentioned: _____

As you realize the focal point of this river crossing was **the ark**, which represents the *presence of the Lord* himself, how does the thought of Israel *following the ark* have significance for your Christian life?

Work on your memory verse for this week!

Day 3 — A Memorial of God's Work

The event described in chapter 3 had been anticipated for centuries. It may have only taken a handful of hours for Israel to cross the Jordan River (v.9 says *the people passed over in haste*). But a swift crossing didn't mean it wasn't significant. This was a major transition in the history of Israel *and* the story of redemption. The entire nation, along with their little ones, their livestock, and their belongings crossed from the Wilderness into Canaan. Maybe that's why a stone memorial was so important.

🔗 READ **Joshua 4**. It seems as though the main theme of this chapter was related to two heaps of stones. Describe the two locations of these stone monuments:

-
-

The Monument at Gilgal —

- Who carried the rocks to Gilgal?
- What was the purpose for the monument and how were they to explain the significance to their children (v.22-24)?

The Monument in the Jordan —

- Who seemed to have heaped the rocks in the riverbed?
- What do you suppose could have been the purpose of a monument in the middle of the river?

Day 4 — Preparing for Battle

📖 READ **Joshua 5:1-8**.

- Describe the emotional state of the people of Canaan, once they realized the Jordan had been dried of water, and Israel crossed over into their territory:

- What was the first instruction that God gave to Joshua at Gilgal?

- Do you think that was an ideal time for circumcision? Do you think it's what Israel expected? What would logic have directed at that time?

- The phrase *circumcise a second time* (v.2) didn't mean, *do it again* — what did it mean based on v.5?

READ **Exodus 12:43-49**. Why do you think it was important to swiftly take care of circumcision?

In the same way that Israel's descent into the riverbed and ascent into the land of Canaan hold spiritual parallels for us; so also does their circumcision. Their land of promise would be a land of battles and those battles would not be won through Israel's own strength and grit — it would be all of God. So why not begin with a renewal of the sign of the covenant, which reminded them of Who was in charge?

In a similar way, when we identify with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection, we begin to face many battles because neither our flesh, the world nor the devil wants us to be serving God. Just like in the story of Joshua, it's not God's intention for us to get busy and fight our battles in the strength of our flesh, so He asks us to *mortify the flesh*, by circumcising our hearts.

READ **Colossians 2:11-15**. With the screenplay of Joshua in mind, how might you describe some of the phrases in these verses that might be difficult for someone to grasp?

- How would you put '*circumcision made without hands*' and '*putting off the body of flesh*' into language that a sixth grader could understand?
- How could you create a word picture for, *buried with Him in baptism* and *raised with Him through faith*?

Be sure to work on your memory verse!

HAVING BEEN BURIED WITH HIM IN BAPTISM,
IN WHICH YOU WERE ALSO RAISED WITH HIM
THROUGH FAITH IN THE POWERFUL WORKING OF GOD,
WHO RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD.

COLOSSIANS 2:12

Day 5 — A Fresh Start

Today's passage is set at **Gilgal**, which means *rolled away*. The opening verse tells us that, for 38 years in the Wilderness, Israel's spiritual life bore more resemblance to their bondage in Egypt than a nation with a strong connection to their God. Now, due to their swift obedience, that disgrace was *rolled away* and a new season had begun.

📖 READ **Joshua 5:9-12**.

- What important celebration was observed right there at Gilgal?

In a very few words, we learn that they '*kept the Passover*', but we're not fooled — it was significant! Imagine an entire new generation celebrating this memorial for the first time. Perhaps the oldest among them shared memories of the night they left Egypt, the aged choking back tears while retelling childhood memories of what the first Passover was like.

This was only the third time Israel had *kept the Passover*. The very first Passover was, of course, the night before they left Egypt. Then, Israel celebrated the next Passover a year later before leaving Sinai, and that is the last time it was kept until now.

READ **Exodus 12:43-49**.

- What two things go hand-in-hand for keeping the Passover?
- How had that been a problem all these years?
- What happened on the very next day after Passover (**v.11**)?
- And what happened on the day after that? (**v.12**)?

We may have forgotten about the manna — maybe it seemed like a *desert thing* from way back in the beginning of the Wilderness journey — but God had been faithful right up to this point — as it never stopped. (Note **Exodus 16:35**.)

🌀 READ **Joshua 5:13-15**.

- Describe the man Joshua saw standing before him:

- How would you have felt, meeting a guy like that behind enemy lines?

TAKE OFF
YOUR SANDALS
FROM YOUR
FEET, FOR THE
PLACE WHERE
YOU ARE
STANDING IS
HOLY.

- Now describe how the man identified himself (**v.14**):

Joshua was accustomed to military commanders and order in Israel. (One example would be **Deuteronomy 1:15**.) But God had also said that HE would fight for them now.

- How was this commander's presence an encouragement to Joshua?
- Finally, what earlier experience of Moses does **v.15** remind you of and do you think this would have reminded Joshua as well?

Recite your memory verse today!

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. As we seek to live for the Lord, He may lead us to a place with a huge obstacle in the way. Have you experienced that in your life? How have you handled facing obstacles like that?

2. The priests carrying the Ark had to step into the water before God's divine intervention took place. What '*step of faith*' is God asking you to take, before He clears the obstacles in your path?

3. God has created you for a purpose. Explain how that purpose cannot be fulfilled by a life lived in the Wilderness, but requires a life lived in the Spirit.

4. What are some practical ways that a Christian can keep those two stone monuments in view, to prevent her from returning to a life of flesh in the Wilderness?

5. Crossing the Jordan made Israel liable to danger. They could have lived safely on the other side, but they *chose* to go in and take hold of the promises of God. In what ways do you think making a decision to walk more closely with God makes *us* more liable to attacks, but also more useful in God's Kingdom?

Week 4 — Joshua 6

The real warfare begins here in chapter six. Israel had successfully defeated the kings on the other side of the Jordan, but now they faced Jericho. Jericho seemed to have been a stronghold for the Canaanites and represented the first real battle inside the land of promise. God was determined to start them off with a miraculous conquest that was unquestionably His own doing.

It's not completely clear how God was speaking to Joshua, but whenever I begin to read this chapter, I picture the *Commander of the Lord's Army* (whom we met at the end of chapter five) standing before Joshua and speaking those instructions and promises personally.

Day 1 — Warfare of Faith

 READ Joshua 6:1-7

- Describe the activity level in the city of Jericho:

List the instructions or commands that were given:

- v.3
- v.4
- v.5

List God's promises about this battle of faith:

- v.2
- v. 5

Let's back up again a bit for context. READ **Deuteronomy 18:8-14**.

- Why was God driving out the Canaanites from this land (v.12)?

- What instructions were given to Israel regarding the practices of the Canaanites?

You see, none of the battles in the book of Joshua had anything to do with Israel taking revenge on an enemy. These weren't Israel's quarrels, but rather God's quarrel with strongholds of evil and those who had walked in agreement with that evil for centuries. God simply chose Israel to participate with Him, as His weapon against the powers of darkness.

Go back to v.2 and underline the first eight words the Lord spoke to Joshua. Then, underline the first three words He spoke in v.7 — say them all together. The message was clear. There was no room for self-sufficiency, no room for Joshua to boast in victory, no room for pride. Everything was accomplished by God. However, He graciously allowed Israel to participate — *“go forward, march.”*

This is an important concept to embrace — The battle belongs to the Lord — but He does assign us ways to participate within HIS battle.

READ **John 15:5** and write the last seven words here:

Memory Verse — Week Four — Romans 8:37

“In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”

Day 2 — Complete Trust

Before we continue in Chapter 6, let's bring a familiar Proverb into the front row of our mind. Read this slowly and think of what it would have meant for Joshua in this chapter...

TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
AND DO NOT LEAN ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING.
IN ALL YOUR WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM,
AND HE WILL MAKE STRAIGHT YOUR PATHS.
PROVERBS 3:5-6

Joshua could have relied on all sorts of strategies in this moment. If, instead of trusting in the Lord's instructions, he would have conferred with this officers; he may have heard suggestions about a siege on the city, maybe another round of spies to find the weak spot in the wall, or how about multiple ladders raised at the same time around the city? — that might work!

Honestly, any military strategy may have sounded more promising than walking around with trumpets. But Joshua was a man who had practiced the art of *listening* to God, and now that he was leader over Israel, it certainly came in handy.

Does his character inspire you? It sure does me! I want to cultivate that discipline of *listening* and then *trusting God*, rather than leaning on my own understanding.

✎ READ **Joshua 6:8-14**. Make a drawing or schematic of the order of the army from **v.8-9**:

Day 3 — Holy to the Lord

📖 READ Joshua 6:15-21.

- Explain how the seventh day of marching around the city differed from the first six.
- How does v.20 specifically record the walls to have fallen?
- How did that enable Israel to capture the city more effectively?
- Who were the lone survivors of the city?

Now let's study through the instructions God gave in v.17-19 about the people and items in the city — He was pretty specific about it.

- From v.17, write the phrase that tells us what was supposed to happen to everything within the city:
- From v.18, write the warning related to the things within the city:
- How many times did you read the word *devoted*? _____

These instructions actually follow a principle that goes back to the first Passover night in Egypt. Remember when God spared all of Israel's firstborn, while all of the Egyptian firstborn were destroyed? God followed up by simply telling Moses in Exodus 13:2, "**Consecrate**

to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine.”

READ **Deuteronomy 26: 1-3, 8-11**. That was the offering of first fruits — what we call a *tithe* — an important principle in God’s Kingdom.

It hasn’t been mentioned yet in Joshua, but Israel would be allowed to keep all the goods from all the other battles, it was just this first one that God wanted *devoted to the Lord*.

Let’s process that concept...

- Did God *need* the stuff?
- How did *not* taking possession of the spoils help Israel remember that all of the glory for the victory belonged to God alone?

NOT TO US,
O LORD, NOT TO US,
BUT TO YOUR NAME
GIVE GLORY,
FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR
STEADFAST LOVE AND
YOUR FAITHFULNESS!
PSALM 115:1

In the New Testament, there isn’t much said about first fruits and tithes — we are simply encouraged to be cheerful givers. But I don’t think that following the principle of giving of our first fruits to the kingdom of God will ever set us in the wrong direction. It is part of God’s character and a kingdom principle that reminds us that our capacity to gather wealth of any kind is a gracious gift of God.

READ **Malachi 3:6-11**. This was a prophetic message for Israel, but what application do you see for your own life?

Work on your memory verse for this week!

Day 4 — The Victory of Faith

🌀 READ Joshua 6:22-25.

- Who had the privilege of rushing to that certain house on the wall, identified by the scarlet cord, to announce their freedom?
- Where were Rahab and her family taken? Can you speculate as to why?

READ 2 Peter 2:9-10. How do Peter's words relate to Rahab's story?

BY FAITH RAHAB THE PROSTITUTE DID NOT PERISH WITH THOSE WHO WERE DISOBEDIENT, BECAUSE SHE HAD GIVEN A FRIENDLY WELCOME TO THE SPIES.
HEBREWS 11:31

🌀 READ Joshua 6:24-27.

- What additional information does V.24 tell about the fate of the city?

Think about the effect this one day had on the neighboring villages. The sound and reverberations of Jericho's walls falling must have been felt for miles around.

Just because Scripture doesn't give us the proper names of other souls who believed in the God of Israel doesn't mean there weren't others who sought *mercy in judgement*.

The heart of God is to spare those who will depart from evil and embrace God's rule on this earth. Yet, it's also the heart of God to make things clear. In this case, the destruction of Jericho was to continue as a monument of God's decisive judgment over evil in His land.

- What was to be the price tag for anyone wanting to restore Jericho to its former glory?

History Moment: There were some dark days laying ahead in Israel's history. Kings would take the throne of Israel with a pretense of representing Yahweh, but their hearts would be fully engaged in the same evil practices that brought destruction on the inhabitants of Canaan in the first place. READ **1 Kings 16:29-34** to see how this curse was played out 500 years later in the days of Ahab.

But, for now, God was the captain of Israel, Joshua was their leader, and the people were enjoying the benefits that obedience brought to the nation. I so very much wish it would stay just that way...but you probably already know that trouble had come and his name is...Trouble! Otherwise known as Achan.

Isn't that often the narrative of our lives as well? We can seem to take one giant spiritual step forward then three steps back. The most important thing will be learning how to deal with setbacks in life.

Day 5 — The Walls Really Did Come a Tumblin' Down

One of the ways we know our Bible is true and accurate is archeological evidence. For our fifth day of study this week, I thought you might enjoy reading an article originally published by **Answers in Genesis**.²

Rather than try to reprint the article in this Study Guide, just follow this link: (<https://answersingenesis.org/archaeology/the-walls-of-jericho/>) I'm sure you will be both educated and encouraged by what you find.

Don't forget your memory verse for this week.

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. The city of Jericho represented the first of many battles in the Promised Land. What was *your* first Jericho? What is your current Jericho?
2. Circling the city of Jericho for six days in silence must have been difficult and we don't read of any promises given to the people during that time. They didn't know about the seventh day and the seventh round. They simply needed to be obedient and persevere. In what area of your life are you called to patiently persevere right now, without knowing when the victory may come?
3. Why do you think the idea of *warfare* in our Christian life disturbs some people? What talking points in our culture make Christians, who are battling the world, the flesh, and the devil, seem silly?
4. J. Hudson Taylor claimed, "three different ways to serve the Lord: 1) to make the best plans we can and hope they succeed; 2) to make our own plans and ask God to bless them; or 3) to ask God for His plans and then do what He tells us to do."³ Which of those three most often describes your method? How would you change that?
5. What aspects of the article from Day Five were the most intriguing to you?

Week 5 — Joshua 7-8

We don't know how much time lapsed between Israel's victory over **Jericho** and their attempt to conquer the neighboring town of **Ai** — maybe one day, five days, ten days — but it probably wasn't a huge chunk of time. I wonder if Israel was feeling slightly invincible. I wonder if they thought the next town would be even easier than the first.

But the very first verse of this chapter begins with '*but*' and the first sentence tells us that something isn't right. Before we even read about the failed battle at Ai, we're told that *someone* did *something*, which would usher in consequences for *everyone*.

These are two tough chapters to read. There are some tough questions to wrestle with. But they are two important chapters to study and consider the implications for our own spiritual path.

Day 1 — Breaking Faith

📖 READ **Joshua 7:1-5** (check out your map on p.5 for perspective)

- From **v.2-3**, describe what the spies suggested as the best military action to take against Ai:

- From **v.4-5**, describe how the battle actually went.

- What was the response of Israel to this defeat?

Man, we hate to see Israel at this level of discouragement after so much progress — the victory over Sihon and Og, the miraculous crossing of the Jordan, the consecration, the Passover celebration; and then, of course, the triumphant destruction of Jericho. This humiliation at Ai was not only unexpected, it was almost unbelievable!

Well, we know the reason because we read verse one, but Joshua needed an answer, so he went right to The One who holds answers.

🌀 READ Joshua 7:6-9.

- Describe Joshua's posture before the Lord:
- Who were Joshua's companions before the Lord?
- What were Joshua's fears for Israel?
- What were Joshua's fears for God's reputation?

READ 2 Corinthians 6:14-16. We often read these verses in the context of who we should and shouldn't marry. This time read through the verses again, as a New Testament principle that is a companion to the story of Achan. Jot down some thoughts, as the Lord gives you insight into these comparisons:

Memory Verse — Week Five — Psalm 119:10-11

*With my whole heart I seek you;
let me not wander from your commandments!
I have stored up your word in my heart,
that I might not sin against you.*

Day 2 — Admitting Sin

If we sewed together the final words from chapter 6 with the opening words from chapter 7, it would read: **“The LORD was with Joshua, and his fame was in all the land — but the people of Israel broke faith...”**. Among other things, this chapter is a lesson on how prosperity and fame can cause us to drop our guard.

READ Joshua 7:10-19

- What did God reveal to Joshua as the reason for Israel’s defeat?

- What did God say they could expect if that transgression was not brought out in the open, and corrected?

God said that Israel **‘transgressed my covenant’**. We don’t often use the word *transgress*, but we do use the word *sin*. There is a difference. Using a Bible dictionary, write out a definition of both words:

Transgression:

Sin:

Explain how they are different:

Explain why this situation would be classified as a transgression:

What one-word action did God ask of Israel before He would *sift* them the next day (v.13)?

What does that remind you of?

Can you imagine Achan's emotions as the crowd on *his side* of the line kept thinning down until finally, he knew concealment was futile?

 READ **Joshua 7:20-21**.

- In your Bible, circle the action words (verbs) that led to Achan's sin. Then, write the words that show the progression of Achan's thoughts and actions.

READ **James 1:13-15**. From our text in Joshua, compare the progression of sin with James' insights about sin's work in our hearts. I started the chart for you:

<u>Achan's Sin (Joshua 7:21-22)</u>	<u>Insights into Our Sin (James 1:13-15)</u>
<i>"when I saw in the plunder..."</i>	<i>"tempted by his own evil desire"</i>

At what point do you think that Achan could have made a different choice?

Work on memorizing your verse.

Day 3 — Judgment of Sin

We left yesterday's study with the thought that Achan could have made a different choice anywhere along the path of temptation. The Apostle James made that clear in the passage we studied.

 READ **Joshua 7:22-26**.

- After the evidence was confirmed, how did Israel deal with this sin?

If you ever had a child who got it into his head to steal some candy on their way through the grocery checkout, you probably had them bring it back or pay for it and apologize; followed by a stern conversation and perhaps some discipline at home. But a simple return of goods wasn't going to fix this problem. We wish it would have because **v.24-26** cause us great trouble.

- What was the punishment brought on Achan and his family?

- Whose idea was that (**v.15**)?

This is a sober passage! This type of swift judgment may not settle very well with modern Bible students. After all, what are we to take from this passage? Sin is certainly something to avoid, but is this how God deals with His kids? Should we expect similar punishment for our transgressions? If not, has God changed His view of sin?

God's Kingdom and God's ways are often mysterious. We shouldn't expect to have all the answers, but we do have a large Bible and we can find some similarities that may help us make sense of this situation. For the remainder of today, we'll consider other episodes of judgement that happened when a particular work of God was in its infancy.

Judgment on Nadab & Abihu:

READ **Leviticus 10:1-2**. What did Nadab & Abihu do that was wrong?

READ **Leviticus 8:5-10**. What aspect of God's Kingdom was brand new, still in its infancy?

What message do you think Israel was intended to understand from this swift judgment?

Judgment on Ananias and Saphira:

READ **Acts 5:1-11**. What did Ananias and Saphira do that was wrong?

READ **Acts 4:32-33**. What aspect of God's Kingdom was brand new, still in its infancy?

What message do you think the church was intended to understand from this swift judgment?

Let's not comfort ourselves in thinking that God's not doing anything new right now, so our hidden sin is safe. There is a clear message to us that allowing sin to go unchecked, in even a small portion of our lives, can cripple our effectiveness for God's kingdom. We should invite the Holy Spirit to reveal our sin so we can confess it, set things right and get on with the business of walking in agreement with God.

Day 4 — A Second Chance

As we read the opening of chapter eight, I picture Joshua standing all alone in the Valley of Achor, quietly staring at a great heap of stones. The cold, sober stones reminded everyone that an entire family AND 36 soldiers died needlessly in the past few days because of sin. But suddenly, God's word pierced through the silence and interrupted Joshua's thoughts, with a message that certainly must have brought a renewed sense of courage!

We have a lengthy battle passage to read today, but I promise you chapter eight will end on a more positive note than chapter seven.

🔗 READ **Joshua 8:1-8**.

- What did God promise Joshua in **v.1**?
- How many men did God instruct Joshua to take (**v.1**) and how did that compare with the first attack on Ai?
- Whose military instructions were they following this time (**v.8**) and how did that compare with the first attack on Ai?
- What was Israel allowed to do with the plunder this time (**v.2**) and how does that compare with the first city of Jericho?

🔗 READ **Joshua 8:9-29**. Sketch the battle plan on the following page. Include the cities of Jericho and Ai; the ambush parties, the army and Joshua. (Refer to the map on p.5 for help)

YOU SHALL DO
ACCORDING TO
THE WORD OF
THE LORD.
SEE, I HAVE
COMMANDED
YOU.

Sketch of Battle Plan for Ai

- Explain what Joshua did with the King of Ai (v.29):

Verse 29 describes another heap of stones — the second heap in just a few days — one over the body of Achan and this one over the body of the King of Ai. Both positive and negative heaps became lasting memorials for Israel.

You and I also have a variety of lasting memorials in our life: they may remind us of victory over sin, or call to mind a failure to trust God, some recalling a time of surrender. Both positive and negative monuments can be useful, if we filter them through eyes of faith.

Consider a recent *monument* in your life. Ask the Lord to help you process that memory or that reminder to make it more useful than maybe it has been.

Be sure to work on your memory verse!

Day 5 — A Monument to God's Word

We've read about so many stone monuments in these chapters, we're just about losing track of what they represent. Here in today's passage, Joshua erects another heap of stones in the Valley of Shechem. This time, it is an altar to honor and render sacrifices to the Lord, but it was also an opportunity to listen to God's Word and remember anew, the place God's Law was to have in this new land of promise.

📖 READ **Joshua 8:30-35**.

Once Ai was burned with fire, all of Israel traveled north about thirty-five miles through open enemy territory to Shechem. (Refer back to your map on p.5 for the location.)

- What was the first thing Joshua did once they arrived in the valley between Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim?

Before we continue with the current scene, let's find out how Shechem held previous significance for Israel. Explain the history of this location from:

- **Genesis 12:6-7:**

- **Genesis 33:18-20:**

Finally READ **Deuteronomy 27:1-26**, when Moses had just given instructions for this very occasion before he died.

From that passage, make a list of which tribes of Israel were to gather on which mountain:

Mt. Ebal

Mt. Gerizim

Two mountains rose, on either side of a valley floor, to create a very unique space. Here is how Alan Redpath described that area:

On either side of the valley of Shechem, two miles wide, stands a mountain — on the one side, Mount Ebal, rugged, barren, rocky; and on the other side, Mount Gerizim, wooded and beautiful. Any traveler to the land of Palestine can tell you that you can stand on the top of Mount Ebal and talk with someone on the top of Mount Gerizim, almost without raising your voice, so perfect are the natural acoustics. The amphitheater provided by the valley is utterly natural and complete, and voices ring across it from peak to peak.⁴

- Who and what was to be in the middle between the two mountains and two groups of people?

Can you place yourself in that scene? Can you hear Joshua reading the Word of the Law and the roar of the people as they shouted, “Amen?” Certainly, the locals must have been spying on this public profession of God’s Law. I wonder what they were thinking!

God’s law expresses God’s character of holiness. God asks His people to ***be Holy, as I am Holy***. He knows our frame, He knows our weaknesses, and yet it is a good thing to meditate on God’s character and allow that imprint to be upon us.

OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY BEHOLD
WONDROUS THINGS OUT OF YOUR LAW.
I AM A SOJOURNER ON THE EARTH;
HIDE NOT YOUR COMMANDMENTS FROM ME!
PSALM 119:18-19

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. What were some of the mistakes Joshua and the Israelites made, leading up to the defeat at Ai? How do some of those same mistakes seep into our lives?
2. Achan suffered through the entire search process before he was willing to admit and confess his sinful actions. Why do you think people struggle so much with admitting sin or wrongdoing?
3. Achan's decisions affected so many people. How aware are Christians that their choices may affect others? How aware are *you*?
4. What have these chapters taught you about overcoming humiliation, failure, and discouragement?
5. The second battle plan against Ai was a completely new and different approach than Jericho. How does that speak to our expectation that God will always act in a similar way in our life?

THERE ARE THREE STAGES TO EVERY GREAT WORK OF GOD:
FIRST IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, THEN IT IS DIFFICULT,
THEN IT IS DONE.⁵
J. HUDSON TAYLOR

Week 6 — Joshua 9-10

In the previous chapter, we left Israel loudly affirming the words of Moses in the Valley of Shechem. It's just not a large enough territory for secrets, and the neighboring city-states *must* have been listening. This week, we read their responses, which fall into two categories: war or deception. Chapter nine narrates the latter.

Day 1 — Let's Make a Deal

🔗 READ Joshua 9:1-15.

- After the proclamations of the Law on Mt. Ebal and Mt. Gerizim, to where did Israel return (v.6)?

- What people group decided to *act with cunning*?

Look at the map on p.5 to refresh your perspective on Gilgal, Shechem and Gibeon.

Let's focus in on the deception of the Gibeonites:

- What did they *say* about themselves and where they were from?

- How did they *costume* themselves to create that allusion?

- What three *victories* over specific countries/kings did they say they had heard of?

Isn't that interesting? They said nothing about Jericho or Ai. Doing so may have blown their cover. Instead, they only recounted what had happened far *across the Jordan*, as if that was their home territory.

- How did the men of Israel confirm the Gibeonite's story (v.14)?
- What one thing did they neglect to do (v.14)?
- Therefore, what arrangement did Joshua make with them (v.15)?

We've all gotten caught, seeing what we wanted to see in a person or situation. We've probably also gotten caught enjoying praise or flattery. I sort of think the flattery caused Israel to lose focus. But there's always a sure remedy for any type of deception — **stop to pray and consult with God!**

BUT THEY
DID NOT
ASK
COUNSEL
FROM THE
LORD

Consider these Scriptures and note how they inspire you to seek wisdom from the Lord in all matters:

Hosea 14:9

Ephesians 5:8-11

1 John 4:1

Memory Verse — Week Six — Romans 12:2

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Day 2 — *The Truth of the Matter*

In yesterday's passage, *nobody* stopped to pray over the Gibeonite delegation, *nobody* sought God's insight and wisdom, *everybody* was tricked; they completely believed the voice of the enemy. In the Bible, it seems that lots of things change after three days and that's what happens in the second half of chapter nine as the truth is revealed.

🔗 READ Joshua 9:16-27.

- Once Israel learned that the Gibeonites were actually neighbors and realized they had made a covenant with their enemies, what was the reaction of the congregation (v.18)?

- What did they decide to *do* with the Gibeonites (v.19-21)?

At this point, there wasn't much they *could do*. I suppose Joshua could have gone back on his contract, killed them anyway, and sweep away the problem. That's always a temptation when these things happen.

Have you ever felt like the Israel community, when they expressed frustration with their leaders over making the covenant in the first place? Have you grumbled? Did you ever consider that you may have made the same decision? It's not easy being a leader.

Here's the twist — maybe God's mercy was at work toward the Gibeonites — maybe this was another aspect of Mercy in judgment.

- Did they speak the truth about the God of Israel's triumph over Egypt, Sihon and Og?

- Did they fear the God of Israel?

- What aspects of their defense statement in **v.24** actually endears them to us a little bit?

- How do you see that they displayed humility before Israel?

AND NOW, BEHOLD,
WE ARE IN YOUR
HAND. WHATEVER
SEEMS GOOD AND
RIGHT IN YOUR SIGHT
TO DO TO US, DO IT.

- Did they show any signs of subverting Israel any further?

We say, God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. (**Romans 8:28**)

- What **good** and important lesson did Israel learn from this attack of deception?

...plus no more wood and water chores for awhile!

- What **good** happened to a group of people who actually did fear the God of Israel?

...looks like all things worked for **good!**
Practice your memory verse for this week.

Day 3 — Back on Track

In the previous two days of study, we noted how Israel came face-to-face with deception. Chapter ten's battles take on a more traditional military nature, but with some supernatural intervention.

In the same way that Israel faced many types of battles in their early days in the promised land, we face different kinds of battles in our spiritual journey. Peter cautioned us to be *sober-minded; and watchful*, because our *adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour* (1 Peter 5:8).

In the midst of these battles and our inevitable mistakes, it's a huge comfort to know that God doesn't put us in time-out as far as His blessings are concerned. God blesses His kids, even after mess ups and that's what we'll see here, following the debacle with the Gibeonites — God's blessing!

🔗 READ Joshua 10:1-8.

- Look at v.6. Identify where exactly Israel had returned to make camp once again. Draw a small tent at Gilgal on the map on p.5.

V.5 identifies the cities involved in this united attack. Underline them in blue on the map on p.5 (note Jarmuth is in the area of Makkedah)

- Why did the news that Gibeon made peace with Israel frighten the king of Jerusalem?

- Why do you think all of those other kings were motivated to join him in war? What were they hoping to accomplish?

- What was Gibeon's best defense against so many foes? In other words, who did they turn to for protection?
- What was Joshua's response to their request (v.7)?

Even though Joshua's feet were moving toward Gibeon, I wonder where his mind was. After all, it was bad enough to have made peace with the Gibeonites, but now there was real trouble with FIVE kings!

What thoughts probably haunted him all the way there?

*...it was my mistake that caused these five kings to prepare for battle
 ...if only I had sought the Lord before we made that covenant
 ...our problems just got five times more complicated*

Aren't those some of the self-focused, one-liners that go through our heads when we know we've made a mistake but can't seem to let it go? Those accusations come from our flesh *and* from our enemy.

- In contrast, what did the voice of God say to Joshua in v.8?

Have you made a recent mistake?
 Have you gotten entangled in something that you really regret?
 Has the enemy fed you accusatory one-liners?
 Have you rehearsed them over and over?

Take a minute to apply this very scenario to your own life. Jot down what you sense the Lord is saying in *your* situation:

THERE HAS BEEN NO DAY LIKE IT BEFORE OR SINCE,
WHEN THE LORD HEEDED THE VOICE OF A MAN,
FOR THE LORD FOUGHT FOR ISRAEL.

- By granting Joshua's request, what do you think God was hoping to see him accomplish?

What about your life? How likely are you to reach out to God and ask for BIG things? How would you typically complete this sentence?

God _____ gets involved in my life.
(never, rarely, sometimes, regularly)

How does reading about this day of battle change your answer?

Contentment is a great Christian virtue as long as it is placed in the proper context. One place in our life, where we *don't* want to be content, is with a mediocre spiritual life — I don't believe God wants us to be content in that area either.

Read these Scriptures and jot down how they inspire you to reach higher, trust greater and draw closer to Him in your battles:

Psalm 105:1-5

1 Corinthians 9:24-26

Hebrews 12:1

How is your memory verse going?

Day 5 — No King Left Behind

As we finish studying the chapter today, we can't miss the passionate advance made by Israel. God had promised that He would give them, ***Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon.*** (Joshua 1:3)

We remember that Israel's advance into the Promised Land is also illustrative of our own advance into the promises of God. Keep a parallel understanding, as you finish reading about Joshua taking away more and more territory from his enemies.

🔗 READ **Joshua 10:16-28**. Take another look at the map on p.5 to see how much territory was secured in these few days of battle.

- The five kings took cover in a cave. Why do you think Joshua decided to simply contain them in the cave to be dealt with after they finished their battles?
- **V.21** indicates that Israel seemed to have set up a temporary camp where?
- Joshua didn't deal with the five kings privately. Describe what the scene looked like when they were brought out of the cave:
- What words of encouragement did Joshua give in **v.25** that were very similar to words that he himself had received from the Lord?

READ **Colossians 3:5-10**. With these verses from the Apostle Paul, and the scene from our current chapter in mind, what action do you think God would have *you* take against lingering sins in your life?

Now, get more specific. Ask God to reveal specific sins or strongholds, or *enemy kings*, that yet need to be subdued in your life, in order for you to continue to capture territory that God promised. List them:

Now, picture yourself with your foot on the neck of that enemy and ask the Lord to give you dominion through His strength.

DO NOT BE AFRAID OR DISMAYED;
BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS. FOR THUS THE LORD WILL
DO TO ALL YOUR ENEMIES AGAINST WHOM YOU FIGHT.

☞ READ **Joshua 10:29-43**. If you can get past the pronunciations, there is so much energy in this passage. Joshua and his army just keep going and going, taking more territory, destroying those who had set themselves against God.

- How are Joshua's victories summarized in **v.42**, and what is the most important phrase?

I hope this chapter has inspired you to move past spiritual mediocrity. It's so easy to merely cross over the Jordan, enjoy a few cool victories, learn a few lessons and then just coast into contentment, all the while living among the remaining enemies. This chapter screams, *Don't stop!!* Grab those enemy kings (who still hassle you), drag them out of the caves (where they wait for you to forget all this passion so they can eventually escape) and put them to death NOW!

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. You may think of yourself as a very discerning person, yet we see that even Joshua was deceived through flattery. What is your Achilles' heel as it relates to possible deception?
2. Joshua did not stop to pray when facing the Gibeonites. We are often characterized by the same neglect. Why do you think that we don't stop to ask God's wisdom in matters?
3. Why do you think it's difficult to trust God for your future, even when He's shown Himself faithful in your past?
4. In **v.8**, God spoke to Joshua in the past tense about something that hadn't yet happened (*I have given them into your hands*). The outcome was determined, but Israel still had to fight. In what area of your life do you sense God has promised victory, but you are still fighting to secure that victory?
5. How would you explain to someone that our Promised Land is a land of blessing and conflict at the same time?
6. READ **Joel 2:32** and discuss how this verse may describe the character of God and His dealings with people.

Week 7 — Joshua 11-21

Brace yourself for our reading pace this week — eleven chapters — 319 verses! But you'll quickly understand why we're reading a larger portion and answering fewer questions.

But don't lose steam on this study — weeks eight and nine are some of the best parts of the entire book. I want us to complete the *whole* study of Joshua, including the land divisions and technical details. I promise you, we'll still find gems to apply to our lives, so be watching!

Day 1 — Nothing Left Undone

✞ READ **Joshua 11:1-9**. Go to the map on p.5 and, with a red pencil, underline those cities that are identified in **v.1**.

- How was this combined army described in **v.4**?

From **v.6**:

- What was God's encouragement?
- His promise?
- His instruction?
- How did Joshua respond to this instruction (**v.9**)?

In Scripture, horses and chariots are often associated with the strength represented by the world. Read and jot down notes from the following verses in Deuteronomy:

Deuteronomy 11:2-4

Deuteronomy 17:14-16

Deuteronomy 20:1

Joshua was obeying the instructions of the Lord in this passage, but what else do you think he was declaring by his actions?

What might be a counterpart in your life to *horses and chariots*? Is there something that God might warn you **not** to rely on in place of His power?

📖 READ Joshua 11:10-23.

- How long did Joshua (and Israel) make war (v.18)?

We think it was approximately seven years of war (because of Caleb's age, which we'll note tomorrow), but it was a very successful campaign. "*Divide and Conquer*" is the military phrase we use and it is an effective strategy. By looking at your map on p.5, combined with what you've studied this week, explain how God ordered things to set Israel up for success:

Memory Verse — Week Seven — Galatians 6:9

*And let us not grow weary of doing good,
for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.*

Day 2 — Looking Back on Victories

The final verse of chapter eleven says, “***And the land had rest from war***”, meaning the major battles were won. Now, Israel could walk in God’s blessing and experience the promised *victory* and *rest*.

There would yet be smaller, individual battles to come but the stage for success had been set and the only thing remaining was to walk it out. Chapter twelve is a record of what had already been accomplished, including a detailed register of accounts.

🌀 READ **Joshua 12:1-6**. This was a record of past history — the victory secured by Moses on the east side of the Jordan.

🌀 READ **Joshua 12:7-24**. This represented a record of more recent history — victories secured by Joshua on the west side of the Jordan.

So, why the lists? God moved upon Biblical writers to make lots of lists, so we need to believe they serve a good purpose. As for me, I believe that recording what God’s done in my life is one of the most important lists I can ever make. Do you have a prayer journal or a means to record God’s victories in your life? If you don’t, maybe the most important thing to do today would be to start that. Recounting God’s faithfulness in the past creates for us a very inspirational weapon for our future!

🌀 READ **Joshua 13**. We already said there was more land to be possessed and here God said as much to Joshua. Then, like a treasure map, He began to mark it out.

There are undoubtedly plenty of territories in our own spiritual walk yet to be claimed for the Lord. If the Lord mapped them out for you, what would some of the territory look like?

Day 3 — God Keeps His Promises

Chapter thirteen details the inheritance for the tribes that had chosen to remain on the east side of the Jordan in the plains of Moab: half of the tribe of Manasseh, the Reubenites, and the Gadites. (As we read about inheritances, you can follow along on the map on p.73.)

There is a little verse tucked in there about the tribe of Levi.

- From **Joshua 13:14**, what was the inheritance of Levi?


 READ **Joshua 14**.

- Even though the tribe of Levi didn't receive an allotment of land, according to **v.4**, what *did* they receive?

I love the second part of this chapter. In the midst of assigning territories to large groups of people, the whole parade slowed down to hand an inheritance to Caleb.

- How old was Caleb at this time?
- How did he describe his strength?
- What territory was Caleb given?

READ **Numbers 14:6-9** to review what had happened 45 years prior. What a reminder that God keeps His promises! Caleb acted and spoke with faith in that day and now he is honored with the fruit of his faith — the very land of which he spoke. How does that inspire you in those areas for which you are waiting patiently?

 READ **Joshua 15-16** and work on your memory verse for this week.

Day 4 — Passing out the Inheritance

Reading these inheritance allotments is a bit like reading directions to drive through a town you've never been to — it's a challenge! But we're going to read them because there are little nuggets of gold for us to find and apply to our own spiritual inheritance.

🔗 READ **Joshua 17:1-6**. Here we find another personal inheritance claim similar to that of Caleb. The daughters of Zelophehad knew that Moses had already promised *them* land since their father had no sons. READ **Numbers 27:1-8** to review that request.

- Name two reasons the ladies asked Moses to promise them land:

In our current reading, they approached the leaders to remind them of that previous promise.

- What was the response of Eleazar and Joshua (**v.4**)?

God loves it when we remind Him of His Promises!

🔗 READ **Joshua 17:7-18**. Rather than reminding God of His prior promises, in this section, we see a group of people failing to take full advantage of what they have already been given. Just as a reminder, both Ephraim and Manasseh are sons of Joseph and they were each given a full portion of inheritance as if they were sons of Jacob.

- From **v.12**, describe the problem Manasseh was having:

- Go back to **16:10** and note the problem Ephraim had:

On the surface, it seems like a legitimate problem — the inhabitants of the land were just too tough of a project for them. What's telling though is that instead of persevering, they looked for excuses.

- In **v.14**, what was their complaint?

- In **v.15**, what was Joshua's recommendation to fix the problem?

- In **v.16**, the people of Joseph (Ephraim and Manasseh) actually describe their *real* problem/fear — what was it?

Isn't that how it goes for us? — God gives us a spiritual inheritance — *the opportunity to approach God (Heb. 4:16), victory over sin (2 Pet. 1:3), good works that He prepared in advance (Eph 2:10)*, and more. He's given these within a specific territory (lot) where He expects us to flourish and we begin to pick it all apart and find problems.

The truth often lies in two areas: 1) we are apathetic about our potential inheritance, 2) we think that the territory God has placed us in is too hard — all we see are iron chariots.

Does this strike a chord with you? Are you discouraged with some work God has given to you and you simply complain about the problems? If so, what is it and what do you think God would tell you to do as a *remedy*?

Day 5 — Mistakes to Avoid

🔗 READ **Joshua 18–19**. Note where the center of worship moved **to** in **18:1**. On the map on p.73 and draw a little *tent* at that location.

🔗 READ **Joshua 20**. Six towns (three on each side of the Jordan) were established as *Cities of Refuge*. Circle them on the map on the next page.

God is into **mercy** and He wants His people to be merciful. God is also into **justice**. The problem is, it's easy for us to push aside mercy and rush headlong into what we believe to be justice; or go the other way.

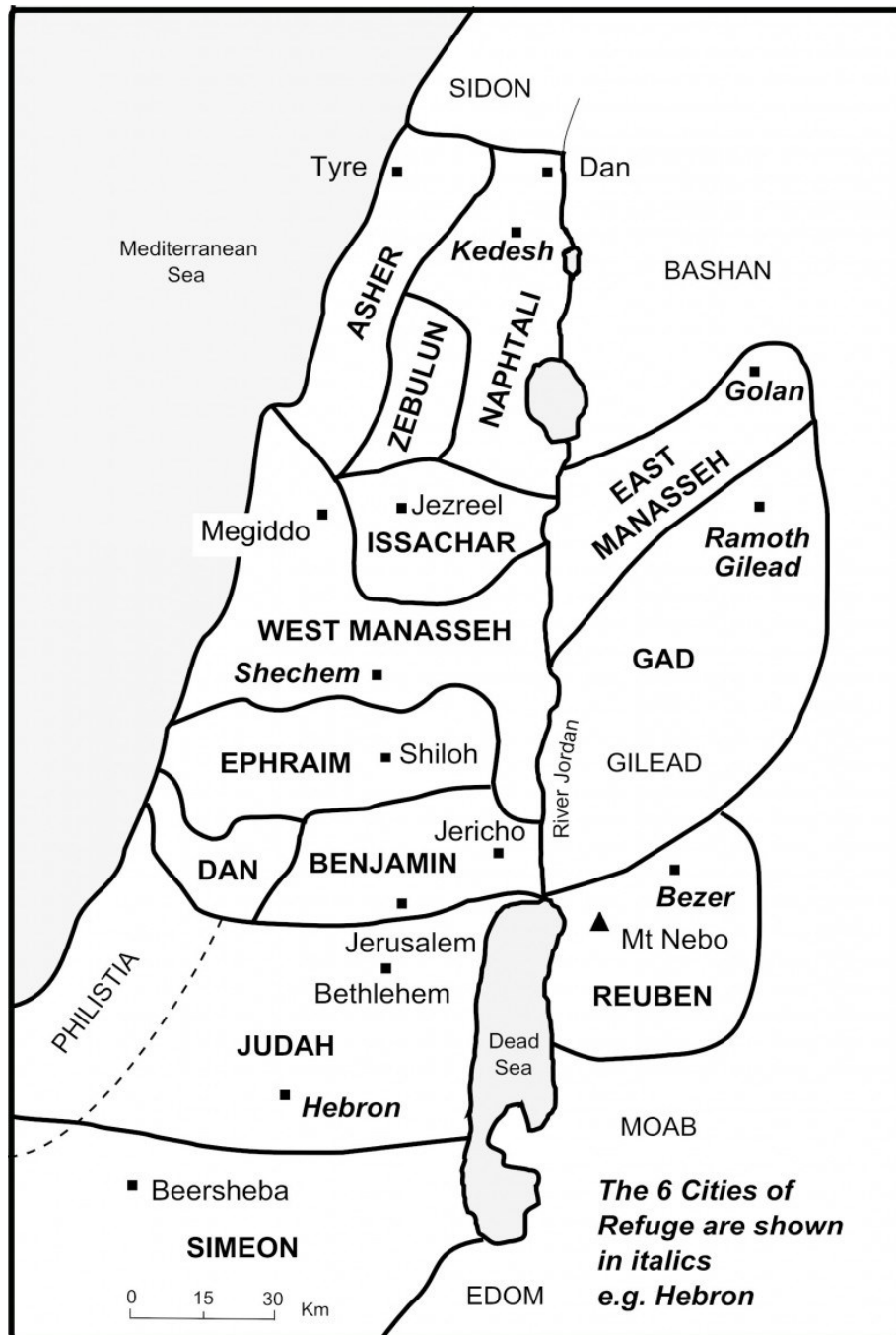
- What are two keys that classified someone as a *manslayer* rather than a *murderer* according to **v.3**?

Life happens! Accidents happen! But if it's *your* loved one who is dead, it may not matter to you if the act was intention or accidental. That's why an emotional or even physical safe place was needed — at least until all the facts could be gathered and sorted through.

There is a companion principle for us. How do you respond when someone seriously injures you, intentionally or not? Have you created an emotional *city of refuge*, as a provision for a cooling-off period? What Scripture could you find and write below as a *go-to* for such a time?

THUS THE LORD GAVE TO ISRAEL ALL THE LAND
THAT HE SWORE TO GIVE TO THEIR FATHERS.
AND THEY TOOK POSSESSION OF IT,
AND THEY SETTLED THERE.
NOT ONE WORD OF ALL THE GOOD PROMISES
THAT THE LORD HAD MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL
HAD FAILED: ALL CAME TO PASS.

Map of Israel's Allotments by Tribe



Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. Genuine faith like Caleb's tends to influence others. How have you been influenced in your life by the faith of another?
2. Complaining and excuses also tend to influence others. Have you been influenced in your life by those who think God has given them too difficult of a lane to run in?
3. We sometimes hear that the Bible dismisses women and their rights. Discuss how this week's passage about the daughters of Zelophehad goes against that perception.
4. If you have walked with the Lord for awhile, do you remember '*going hard*' when you were first saved? What do you think happens to us when, after awhile, we want to '*go easy*'?
5. Because Israel did not completely remove the Canaanite inhabitants from the land, they became hindered in their worship and service to God. The Canaanites represent sin, and there are always long-term consequences when we either refuse, or neglect to eliminate sin from our lives. How has this week's study inspired you to hunt down more Canaanites and take away their land?

- Why do you think it was important or necessary that they be warned to continue to walk in all the ways of the Lord?

Certainly, it must have been a satisfying time. These men labored side-by-side with all of Israel for approximately seven years. I wonder if they had devised a way to rotate some of the men to check in on their wives, little ones and livestock during those years. In some ways, their decision to claim land on the east side of the Jordan made life more challenging for them in that the river created a natural barrier from their loved ones.

As we read **v.10**, we can picture them coming to that river, knowing it was probably the last time they would be on the west side of it.

- What did they do there?

- Can you speculate as to why?

You may know this altar will turn into a huge misunderstanding. Right now, it doesn't seem like much of a problem and it could have remained just that way. We're going to suggest a series of lessons each day this week that we can apply from this chapter.

Lesson #1 — Resist the temptation to *over-think* other people's actions. In what way has that been a problem for you in the past? How can you apply that right now to your life?

Memory Verse — Week Eight — Psalm 133:1,3

*Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.*

Day 2 — *Second-hand Information*

We left off reading about two and a half tribes of Israelites making their final march to their permanent home on the *other* side of the river. But, before they crossed over, they made *an altar*. That's ALL the text told us right up to **v.10**, but it's about to get complicated.

🔗 READ Joshua 22:11-12.

- Read the first phrase in **v.11** from a handful of translations. What sense do you get from those readings?

- When the people of Israel *heard these things said*, how did they respond?

It seems like a bit of an over-reaction don't you think? I mean, these people have been fighting side-by-side as a nation for the better part of a decade, and now they're assembling to war against their brothers because of something *someone said*?

Lesson #2 — Don't *over-react* when fed information about your friends or family. Take time to investigate before you *plan for war*.

In what way has that been a problem for you in the past?

How can you apply this lesson right now to your life?

Day 3 — Jumping to Conclusions

Even though Israel prepared for war, sanity did prevail and they sent a delegation to discuss the matter. THAT part was a good idea...

📖 READ Joshua 22:13-20

- Whom did they send on the diplomatic mission (v.13-14)?

- In v.16, what conclusion had they already made and used to accuse the Eastern tribes?

Lesson #3 — Resist *jumping to conclusions* based on appearances. As we say, *'there are two sides to the same coin'*. It all depends on where you're standing to view it.

Jumping to conclusions is bad enough, but then the officers seem to *throw the past in their faces* before listening to their response! Don't we all love it when people remind us of who we were in the past?

- What two incidents from Israel's history did the delegation bring up as a reminder?

Lesson #4 — Resist *bringing up the past*, at least until you've gathered all the facts, and given the other party a chance to speak.

In what way can you apply these lessons right now to your life?

Practice your memory verse for this week.

Day 4 — Fear-based Decisions

Finally the people of Reuben, Gad and Manasseh realized the misunderstanding and got a chance to defend themselves!

 READ Joshua 22:21-29.

- When the tribes heard what Israel thought they were up to, what sort of exclamation came out (v.22)?
- What did they say was the purpose of the altar in v.27?
- More specifically, in v.28, what kind of conversations did they hope the altar would produce?
- And, in v.24, what emotion did they say motivated them toward building the altar?

That gives us something to think about! How many of our actions are based out of fear? How many times do we hesitate because of fear? We are often much worse at anticipating the future than we believe!

Lesson #5 — Resist taking action based on *fear of what might happen*.

In what way can you apply this lesson right now to your life?

Day 5 — Clear Communication is Best

Once the Eastern tribes had a chance to be heard — all was well. Isn't that often the truth in life, once both sides of a story are heard, every-thing simmers down? But honestly, they didn't have to go through all of that if either or both parties had just thought to communicate more clearly in the first place.

📖 READ Joshua 22:30-34.

- How did Phinehas receive the explanation from the Eastern tribes and what did he do with that information?

- Summarize the Western tribes' final response:

Lesson #6 — Consider *clearly communicating* your intentions upfront.

In what way could the Eastern tribes have communicated and eliminated all the drama?

In what way can you apply this lesson right now in your life?

This chapter is a useful manual for resisting assumptions, dealing with misunderstandings and walking in peace with one another. Read the following verses and note how we can apply the wisdom they contain to situations such as these.

Proverbs 14:29

Proverbs 15:1

Proverbs 18:17

James 1:19-20

Recite your memory verse to someone

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. How might Joshua's send-off message in v.2-5 be turned into a pattern for sending off loved ones to summer camp, college, marriage, etc.?
2. READ **Philippians 4:8**. Why do you think asking the question, '*Is it true?*' should always be a *first step* when confronted with information about others? What makes that difficult to do?
3. There were so many *life lessons* packed into each day's reading. If any of those described a certain relational perplexity in your life, you can believe that God has a plan. Explain why there isn't a *one-size-fits-all* remedy to these sorts of complex situations.
4. How might an older or leader-type person (like Eleazer) be useful as a mediator in modern-day situations such as these?
5. Once the truth of a situation is uncovered, why do you think it's sometimes difficult to stop re-hashing the whole misunderstanding? Why is it important to just let it be done?

Week 9— Joshua 23-24

It's so satisfying when a good book has a good ending. I think the book of Joshua has a pretty good ending — at least Joshua had the opportunity to say what *he* wanted to say and what *God* wanted him to say, before his days drew to an end. In chapter 23, Joshua inspired the elders of Israel toward godly living, before he addressed the whole nation in chapter 24. When a great statesman like Joshua speaks his parting words and warnings, it's worth paying attention!

Day 1 — Love the Lord Your God

📖 READ **Joshua 23:1-11**. When did Joshua speak these things?

- List some of the important things that Joshua wanted to bring to the minds of the men (**v.3-5**):

Even though a long time had passed and *rest* was mentioned, we get the sense that Israel wasn't completely finished claiming their inheritance. There was still more work to be done.

- What were the most important things that the people needed to remember, in order to experience continued success (**v.6-8**)?

- Think of one word to sum up the message from **v.6-8**:

When a runner needs emotional fuel to finish the remaining laps of her race, it could be beneficial to recall how many previous laps have already been successfully run.

- How were Joshua's words encouraging, as he reminded them of their past in **v.9-10**?

The word **therefore** often means, 'because of this'. Because of what the Lord had already done for them, how did Joshua exhort them to respond in **v.11**?

Circle how you most often think of *love*: emotion choice

Circle how you think it's used in this verse: emotion choice

In order for Israel to continue their success, they needed to **love** God by **obeying** God. There were obvious pitfalls that remained in their path, and Joshua warned that a lack of love and obedience would foil their future enjoyment of the inheritance they were given.

We have been given an inheritance in Jesus Christ to enjoy right now. How would you say that a lack of attention to love and obedience on our part could potentially foil our enjoyment of the spiritual inheritance we have been given?

Memory Verse — Week Nine — Hebrews 10:23

*Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,
for he who promised is faithful.*

Day 2 — Obey the Lord Your God

If Joshua's sermon to the elders was boiled down to just two words, they would probably be **love** and **obedience**. But those concepts have been the heartbeat of God's Kingdom all along:

Deuteronomy 6:4-6 "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart."

In any group of people, it's always the leaders who need to set the example. So it makes good sense that Joshua gave them a stern warning, complete with descriptive examples of consequences.

 READ Joshua 23:12-16.

- Describe the cause/effect warning that Joshua voiced in v.12-13:

Potential bad choice:

Potential result:

- What do you think may have caused the Israelites to make poor choices and walk in the ways of the nations they had dispossessed?

We also face temptations to make associations or walk in ways that are contrary to God's kingdom.

READ **Ephesians 5:6-13**. In this passage, the Apostle Paul was giving the believers in Ephesus a warning that sounded quite similar to what Joshua was telling Israel.

- Who were the *sons of disobedience* he was referring to?
- What do you think Paul meant when he said, "*do not become partners with them*"?

THE FEAR OF
THE LORD
IS HATRED
OF EVIL.
PROV. 8:13

- Rather than partnering with those who did shameful things, what was his advice?

There is consistency in God's warnings. He has always gone to great lengths to protect His kids from things that would create a subpar enjoyment of His blessings. Let's bring this closer to our life today.


- What associations (people or activities) in your life do you think may carry the potential to draw you *away* from the Lord or *toward* the deceitfulness of the world?
- How can you follow Paul's advice and *expose* it (even if only to yourself), rather than *partner* with it?

Work on your memory verse for this week.

Day 3 — *It's all God's Doing* _____

In the final chapter of Joshua, the text tells us that Joshua gathered ***all the tribes of Israel to Shechem***. Remember Shechem was the place they gathered thirty years prior to renew their covenant (**Joshua 8**). It was also where God made promises to Abraham (**Genesis 12:6-7**), and where Jacob built an altar to God (**Genesis 33:20**).

The portion of Joshua's speech that we are studying today is that portion where Joshua acts as a mouthpiece for God, something like a prophet: "***thus says the Lord, the God of Israel.***" (Joshua will go on to give his own advice about how to respond to God's message in tomorrow's text.)

 READ **Joshua 24:1-13**. As you read through the text in your Bible, circle each occurrence of God saying HE DID something. For example, in **v.3**, circle "***I took***" and "***I gave***".

- ...what conclusions do you come to about how victories are won and blessings are bestowed in God's Kingdom?

READ **Genesis 17:4-8**, where God spoke His promises to Abraham. Circle each occurrence of God saying HE WILL DO something. For example, in **v.6**, circle "***I will make you.***"

READ **Exodus 6:2-9**, where God spoke His promises through Moses. Circle each occurrence of God saying HE WILL DO something. For example, in **v.6**, circle "***I will bring you out.***"

- After reading all these passages, to what conclusions do you come about God and His promises?

I GAVE YOU A LAND ON WHICH YOU HAD NOT
LABORED AND CITIES THAT YOU HAD NOT BUILT,
AND YOU DWELL IN THEM

READ **Romans 4:18-21**.

- What conclusions had Abraham come to about what God promised in his own life?

- How much of a challenge do you think that may have been for Abraham, since he really didn't get to see, with his own eyes, the fulfillment of what God promised him?

READ **Ephesians 2:8-9**.

- How does our own spiritual inheritance parallel with what God did for Israel in the land of promise?

READ **Ephesians 3:20**.

- With all these passages still in mind, how does this sentence inspire you about God's ability to bless and keep His promises in your life?

Be sure to work on your memory verse.

Day 4 — Choose Whom You Will Serve

We set aside just two verses for our consideration today and, of course, verse 15 is familiar to just about everyone — Christian or not. But the most important words here are the first two: ***Now therefore!***

Joshua used the same format as his previous talk with the leaders in chapter 23. After reviewing God’s grace and goodness in keeping His promises to Israel, Joshua called them to reciprocate with holiness and love to God.

 READ Joshua 24:14-15.

I want to make today’s study really simple. We looked in-depth at what God promised and then accomplished in the life of Israel. Joshua’s simple summary was that they should *Therefore, make a choice* —

- *either choose to serve God in sincerity and in faithfulness, or*
- *choose which of the gods beyond the river they want to serve.*

Joshua spoke the Word of the Lord, giving a national history of God’s activity in their life and His faithfulness to them. Maybe reviewing God’s faithfulness in your life isn’t an activity you do every day, so we’re going to break our own rules just a little and make this verse *all about us!*

On the lines that follow, list your personal history of God’s faithfulness to you — as many aspects as you can think of. Begin with how He drew you, revealed Himself to you, saved you. Then conclude your list with...

...Therefore, serve the Lord in sincerity and in faithfulness

Day 5 — We Still Need a Savior

The response of the people to the reminder of God's faithfulness was positive, but there was an unsatisfying twist to Joshua's comments.

 READ **Joshua 24:16-27**.

- Summarize Israel's response to Joshua in **v.16-18**:

- What was Joshua's unexpected comment about their choice?

- Why do you think he answered them in that way?

- What do you think **v.23** may have to do with his comments?

What a great final sermon! Joshua had nothing to lose at this point, he would be gone, but he had one last chance to speak the Word of the Lord and give a warning to the people he loved and had served his entire life.

- What things were set in place as final reminders of the gathering and covenant that day?

Have you ever gone through a season when things were changing too quickly? After this day at Shechem, things were about to change for Israel. For the last 70+ years, they had been under the leadership of either Moses or Joshua and had worshipped under the direction of either Aaron or one of his sons. Now, everything would be different!

📖 READ Joshua 24:28-33.

- List the age of Joshua when he died, along with his burial place. Why do you think he was buried there?

- Where were the bones of Joseph placed? Why do you think that location?

- How long did Israel serve the Lord (v.11)?

If you know your Old Testament a little, you know the next chapter of Israel's history isn't great. Right here in Joshua, they possessed the promise given to Abraham, but they were still in spiritual need of another Joshua who would rescue them from the curse of sin. The story wasn't over!

We still need the real Joshua — Jesus the Messiah — who leads us into the promises of God. God has promised us victory and rest through His Holy Spirit, and He is able to keep His promises!

The worst possible response, after studying this book of the Bible, would be to say, *'no thank you — I'd prefer to stay in the Wilderness!'* I trust that each one of us will set our foot on the Path of Promise and, by faith in Jesus, take possession of all the blessings God has for us — remembering that blessings AND battles are part of the package — but, through our God, we shall do valiantly!

May you be Blessed Abundantly,

Sue

Questions for Thought & Discussion

1. Joshua warned Israel that any gradual association with the remaining nations would eventually lead to worship of their gods. What types of things begin gradually in our lives and eventually put us on a path leading away from God?
2. In chapter 23, Joshua referred to Canaan as *this good land* three times (v.13, 15, 16). God's *path of promise* also brings us into a *good place*. Why do you think we so often refer to our spiritual life as difficult and hard, rather than good?
3. Joshua was a man who could truly speak the words of the Apostle Paul: "*I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith*" (2 Tim. 4:7). What elements of his life inspire you the most?
4. How would you explain to a non-Christian what it means for you to *serve the Lord*?
5. Have you ever heard someone described by the phrase: '*... but, she loves the Lord*', even among glaring obedience issues? Do you think it's possible to love the Lord and chose not to obey Him?

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p.5 — **Map of Israel’s Entry into the Promised land —**

p.73 — **Map of Israel’s Allotments by Tribe —**

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Women of the Word Bible Studies

The following WOW Bible Studies written by Sue LeBoutillier are available through the **Calvary Chapel Ontario bookstore**, and through our online store at www.ccontario.com.

Old Testament:

- **Genesis** —Divine Design, From Eden to Egypt
- **Exodus** —Divine Deliverance, From Egypt to Sinai
- **Numbers** —The Wilderness Way, From Sinai to the Jordan
- **Joshua** —The Path of Promise, From the Jordan into Canaan
- **Judges** — A Time of Turning
- **Ruth** —Rescue and Rest
- **1 Samuel** — The Coming King
- **Jonah** —The Call of Compassion

New Testament:

- **The Way of Jesus** —The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew)
- **Simply Jesus** —The “I AMs” of Christ (John)
- **Acts** —Walking in the Spirit, The First Days of the Last Days
- **Galatians** —Finding Grace in a Demanding World
- **Philippians** —Finding Joy in a Disjointed World
- **Colossians** —Walking in Strength and Power
- **Titus** —While We Wait
- **James** —Real Faith for Daily Life
- **1 & 2 Peter** —Hope, Holiness and Humility in a Hostile World
- **1,2,3 John** —Light, Love and Logic, Lessons from the Apostle John