

THE FUTURE

Scott Hansen, Lead Pastor
June 15, 2014

JOSHUA 1:1-11 (Father's Day 2014)

A TIME OF TRANSITION & CHANGE

PRINCIPLE #1: Moving into the future with success & victory requires faith.

OBSTACLES

- ❶ Jordan River
- ❷ Strong resistance
- ❸ No more manna
- ❹ No more Moses

GOD WAS READY WITH A NEW LEADER – JOSHUA, SON OF NUN

- ▶ Moses' chief assistant (for 40 years) (Exodus 24:13; 33:11)
- ▶ Trained as a military general (fighting against the Amalekites) (Exodus 17:8-16)
- ▶ Accompanied Moses up Mt. Sinai (Exodus 24:13)
- ▶ Accompanied Moses at the Tabernacle (where God spoke to Moses) (Exodus 33:11)
- ▶ Commissioned as Moses' successor (Numbers 27:15-23; Deuteronomy 3:21-22; 31:1-8)

PRINCIPLE #2: Human leaders come & go, but God's work marches forward.

FEAR OF CHANGE

- ▶ Fear is an emotion induced by a perceived threat which causes a change in brain and organ function and ultimately in our behavior... it leads us to do things like run away, hide or freeze up (or disobey God) in the midst of traumatic events

PRINCIPLE #3: It is a close relationship with God that drives out fear. (1 John 4:18)

PROMISES & COMMANDS

▶ Promises

- ❶ Canaan is Israel's inheritance (vs.2)
- ❷ Wherever your feet step, will be yours (vs.3)
- ❸ No one will prevail against you all of your life (vs.5)
- ❹ I will be with you as I was with Moses (vs.5, 9)
- ❺ I will never leave you or forsake you (vs.5)
- ❻ You will succeed wherever you go (vs.7, 8)

▶ Commands

- ❶ Be strong & courageous (vs. 6, 7, 9, 18)
- ❷ Radically obey my revealed truth (vs.7)
- ❸ Constantly meditate on my revealed truth (vs. 8)
- ❹ Do not be afraid (vs.9)
- ❺ Do not be discouraged (vs.9)

PRINCIPLE #4: God asks His people to respond to His promises & commands with obedience.

PRINCIPLE #5: The secret to spiritual success is knowing & doing what the Bible says.

- I will participate in a LifeSkills course this summer.
- I will sign up and attend the Radiant Marriage Conference.



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Bridge LifeGroups are **currently on summer break**. We will continue to offer study questions each week which can be useful for personal devotions and/or discussion starters for LifeGroups that choose to meet for a portion of the summer break.

1. **READ Joshua 1:1-9.** What do you know about the context of these verses? What is about to happen?
2. Why do you think Joshua needed to be told to be courageous? What fears do you think he had? What fears do you think the people of Israel had?
3. **READ Numbers 13:25-14:3.** When the previous generation of Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land, how did they respond to the fears they faced?
4. In what areas of your life can you relate to the fears of Israelites? What tasks, needs, trials, relationship situations, etc. seem extremely challenging or even insurmountable in the days and months ahead?

5. What truths does God remind Joshua of in order to fuel his courage? How can these truths also help you as you consider your answers to question #4?
6. How can this also positively influence how you treat your friends? Spouse? Children? Neighbors? Co-workers/fellow students? Etc.?
7. **READ** the following verses. How would you describe the kind of attitude God wants us to have toward His Word?
 - **Joshua 1:8:**
 - **Psalm 1:1-3:**
 - **Psalm 19:7-11:**
 - **2 Timothy 3:16-17:**
8. Practically speaking, how can this attitude help you in your own life and as you look toward the future?

Close in prayer as the Holy Spirit leads you.

This **LifeGroup** Study Guide is designed to help you apply Sunday's message. You can do this homework on your own; however we encourage you to check out our warm and friendly message-based **LifeGroups!** Get a copy of this Study Guide at theBridgeFresno.com by clicking on the "Messages" link.