



Moving Forward Together

JOSHUA 1:10–18



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WELCOME:

Fixing Our Focus

Suggested icebreaker:

1. Briefly explain that Joshua and the Israelites had three days to prepare before embarking on a significant change—the crossing into the Promised Land. Similarly, you're going to explore what it means to prepare for change or challenges.
2. Ask each participant to think for a moment and then share with the group one thing they would do if they had just three days to prepare for a significant event or challenge in their life. This could be a personal change, a professional challenge, or a spiritual journey.
3. After everyone has shared, reflect briefly on the variety of preparations mentioned. Highlight how these preparations involve both practical and spiritual readiness, drawing a parallel to how the Israelites might have felt and the comprehensive nature of their preparations under Joshua's guidance.
4. Conclude the ice-breaker by noting that just as each person shared different forms of preparation, the passage will explore how preparation, obedience to God's commands, and unity are crucial for facing the challenges and opportunities God sets before us.

WORSHIP:

Adoring Our God

Suggested song:

[I Will Follow](#)

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

LESSON AIM

1. GG members will examine Joshua's role as a leader and the qualities that make him effective in guiding Israel into the Promised Land.
2. GG members will identify ways in which the principles of leadership, obedience, and commitment apply to individual lives and the broader church community.
3. GG members will commit to obeying God's word and leadership, even when it requires stepping out in faith.

INTRODUCTION

Joshua 1:10-18 marks a pivotal moment in the history of Israel, as they stand on the brink of entering the Promised Land. After the death of Moses, Joshua assumed leadership of the Israelites, tasked with guiding them into the land God had promised to their ancestors. This section of Scripture not only highlights the transition of leadership from Moses to Joshua but also emphasizes the themes of obedience, preparation, and collective responsibility within the community of faith.

In response to God's command, Joshua told the officers to tell the people to prepare (vv. 10-11)

Joshua relays to the officers of the Israelites God's command to possess the Promised Land. They have three days to prepare before they cross the Jordan River and enter the Promised Land.

1. What does Joshua command the officers to tell the people?
2. When are the Israelites told they will cross the Jordan River?
3. How are they supposed to prepare for their journey across the Jordan? How does Joshua's instruction to prepare reflect their faith in God's promises?

Application

How can you prepare yourself spiritually and practically for the tasks God has set before you?

Joshua reminded the Eastern tribes of their commitments (vv. 12-15)

The tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh had already possessed their land ahead of their brothers. Joshua reminded them of their commitment to Moses that they would fight alongside their brothers and would only return to their return to their land after the other tribes had possessed their land as well.

1. What commitment did the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half-tribe of Manasseh make to Moses? What was the reason behind their commitment?

WORD & WALK:

Understanding & Applying the Word

2. Why was it important for Joshua to remind them of their commitment to Moses?
3. How does the concept of “rest” as mentioned in verses 13 and 15 correlate with the fulfillment of God’s promises and the work required to achieve them?

Application

What does the situation of the Eastern tribes teach you about personal desires and the common good?

The officers affirmed Joshua’s leadership and submitted to God’s will (vv. 16-18)

The officers affirm Joshua of their loyalty to him and to God. They prayed that God’s presence would be with him just as it was with Moses, and they encouraged him to lead them.

1. What was the response of the officers to Joshua’s instructions?
2. How do the officers compare Joshua’s leadership with that of Moses?
3. What does their response indicate about their understanding of God’s authority and Joshua’s role as a leader?

Application

How do you respond to God-appointed leaders in your life, and in what ways can you improve your support and obedience to their guidance as it aligns with God’s word?

PRAYER ITEM

Lord, thank you for choosing me to be one of your people. I know that I am totally undeserving, and it is only by your grace. May I learn to totally depend on you as you train and test me throughout my life journey. I am encouraged to know that you supply all my needs and you enable me to do your calling. Thank you for placing me in a community of faith where we, as believers, may encourage and support one another. May you be pleased as I place my faith and trust in you moment by moment, day by day. In Christ’s name, I pray. Amen. ■



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