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#### STUDY GUIDE · JOSHUA: TAKE HOLD OF WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN

Standing on the Premises of God JOSHUA 18:1–10

## **WELCOME:**

# Fixing Our Focus

## Suggested icebreaker:

Let each GG member share a time when their procrastination or "cramming" brought serious consequences. Each member may share as well what they think they could have done in those instances to be less negligent.

## **WORSHIP:**

## Adoring Our God

## Suggested song:

Perfect Wisdom of Our God

#### STUDY GUIDE · JOSHUA: TAKE HOLD OF WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN

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## **WORD & WALK:**

## Understanding & Applying the Word

#### **LESSON AIM**

- 1. GG members will remember how God does not neglect His people, bringing abundance and peace to them as He has promised.
- 2. GG members will worship the Lord upon understanding more of His timeless and intergenerational faithfulness to His people.

#### INTRODUCTION

This passage in the book of Joshua clarified the specifics regarding the allotment of the Promised Land to the tribes of Israel. Whereas the previous two chapters recorded the territory of the people of Joshua, namely those from the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh west of the Jordan, the text today introduced the eventual allotment of the remaining land.

### The remaining land was surveyed and apportioned (vv. 1-10)

As seven of the tribes had yet to receive their inheritance, Joshua rebuked them and instructed them to take action. He proposed a plan to survey the land, which would eventually, through the casting of lots, would be apportioned for the people of Israel.

- Prior to this passage, where had Israel been encamped? Where had they
  moved in the passage? What became the significance of this place in Israel?
  (cf. Judges 18:31, 1 Samuel 1:3)
- Review which of the tribes of Israel, up to that point in the narrative, had already received their inheritance. Which seven tribes had yet to receive theirs?
- 3. Joshua rebukes the people for delaying their taking of the land. Given their context, what do you think were some of the reasons behind this negligence?
- 4. What was the strategy Joshua proposed to the people in surveying and apportioning the land? After following this plan, what did Joshua do when the men came back to the camp?
- Let's recall. Why did the Levites have no portion? (cf. Joshua 13:14) Why were the tribes of Gad, Reuben, and Manasseh east of the Jordan not included in this plan? (cf. Joshua 13:8-12)

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## WORD & WALK:

## Understanding & Applying the Word

## **Application**

In the original language, the word "Shiloh," which was the place where the remaining land was apportioned, contains ideas of tranquility and abundance. Interestingly, it is also used to refer to the Messiah in Genesis 49:10, the one who would ultimately bring peace and have the people's obedience. While today we know this to be Jesus Christ, like the people of Israel, we at times delay in receiving the tranquility and abundance already prepared for us because of our negligence and disobedience. Currently, what areas of your life are lacking peace? How can choosing obedience to God bring peace into these areas? Become accountable with the group so that each may take courage for what God has given.

#### PRAYER ITEM

Dear God, I am humbled when I think about You. You reign over all things, and to You belongs the obedience of all people. I praise You because, in Your infinite greatness and my infinite weakness, You never neglected me. You sent Jesus Christ, the Messiah, to bring true peace to the world. May I rest in Your abundant love. May I desire to obey You and be a part of Your perfect plan. May you use me to be an instrument of tranquility to the world, telling people about Jesus Christ wherever I go. This I pray in Jesus' name. Amen. ■



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