

Josh 1.1-9 Discussion Questions

1. Life is full of change and times of transition. These are often marked by painful and difficult events. In this passage the difficult event is the death of the remarkable man Moses, probably the greatest leader in the OT. What is an example in your life of a challenging time of transition or change and what was the event that initiated the change?

2. In this passage, God commanded Joshua to pick up where Moses left and lead the people into the Promised Land. What challenges are you currently facing? What do you believe that God has commanded you to do in response or in spite of it?

3. In vv. 3-5 God reminds Joshua of his promise.

a. There are three aspects to this promise what are they?

b. For those of you who are facing current challenges, what are the promises that God has provided you with? Do they reassure you? Why or why not?

4. In v. 2 God told Joshua what He needed to do. Then in vv. 3-5 he reassured Joshua by reminding him of his promises. Now in vv. 6-9 God explains what Joshua needs to do in order to fulfill the mission that God has given him.

a. What does Joshua need to do? (Hint: God repeats it three times)

b. Why does God say that Joshua needs to be strong and courageous? (See v. 6)

5. Next, God highlights one of the key ways that Joshua is to be strong and courageous.

a. What is it? (See v. 7)

b. Why does God say that Joshua needs to keep God's law?

c. In light of the above, what does it look like for you to be strong and courageous in your situation?

6. God follows with providing a practical strategy to help him remain faithful to God's law.

a. What is it? (See v. 8)

b. How can this same strategy help you in building your strength and courage in the Lord?

7. Finally, the Lord highlights one last aspect of being "bold and courageous." It is the simple and obvious one that being "bold and courageous" means not being afraid. What is this lack of fear grounded in (v. 9)?

a. Since God is invisible how does Joshua really know that God with Him? What is his confidence in God's presence based on?

b. How can you know that God is with you? What can you look back upon to provide you with confidence?

c. Why is God's presence so reassuring? Why should it remove all of our fear?

8. In his sermon, Pastor Mike used a helpful illustration for the trusting God in the midst of change. It was being a trapeze artist. There are three different points of the "trapeze process":

(1) Hanging on to the first trapeze not wanting to let go.

(2) Having let go of the first trapeze and flying through the air waiting for the next trapeze to come close enough so you can grab it.

(3) Having grabbed a hold of the second trapeze and moving forward.

a. Where do you feel like you are in this process in your life?

b. Where are you struggling to trust God in this? What is holding you back?

c. What would it look like for you, practically speaking, to trust God and take the next step?

d. How can this passage help you move forward?