

May 30, 2021

Pastor Andy McClellan

Title: "Be Strong & Courageous"

Series: Joshua: God is Faithful

Scripture Reading: Deuteronomy 31:1-8 (ESV)

Outline:

1. God has already won the war _____, vv. 2-6 (*cf. Deuteronomy 11:24-25; 1 Kings 4:21-24; John 19:30; Hebrews 12:2*).
2. God has given you the _____ for victory, vv. 7-8 (*cf. 7:1-5; Deut. 31:9-13; 1 Chronicles 22:13; Psalm 1:1-3; Matthew 7:24; John 14; Ephesians 6:10-18; 2 Timothy 2:15; 4:16; Heb. 4:12; James 2:8-13*).
3. God Himself is both your _____ and _____, vv. 5, 9 (*cf. Deut. 7:21; 31:3-8; Matt. 28:19-20; 2 Tim. 4:16-17; Heb. 13:5-6; 1 Peter 4:12-19*).



In Joshua 1:7-8, God promised Joshua that he would have success as long as they followed God's Word. As a family, read **Joshua 6:1-19; 7:1-5** and **7:10-13** and discuss the following questions:

- What were God's instructions for His people after they defeated Jericho?
- Why did Joshua and Israel lose their first battle against Ai?
- What does this say about God's commitment to His promises?
- What does it say about our obedience and disobedience?
- Does our personal obedience or disobedience have an effect on others? How and why?

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR GROWTH

1. In Joshua 1:1-6, God says to Joshua both that He is giving the land to the people (v. 2) and that Joshua will cause people to inherit the land (v. 6).
 - What was God's part in Israel obtaining the Promised Land, and what was Joshua's part?
 - Even though victory in taking the land was already guaranteed, what would have been the result if Joshua and the people would not have moved for fear of their enemies?
 - What other things has God promised that only come when His people step forward in faith?
 - What decision or move has God called you to make, but you've hesitated because of fear? How is this passage encouraging to you?
2. In Joshua 1:7-8, God instructed to be "careful to do according to all that is written" in God's Word. Using these verses and the cross references in point 2 above for help...
 - What does it mean to be "careful" in following God's Word? What does it look like to not be careful?

- Why is it important to do according to “all” that is written? If you were honest, which instructions in God’s Word would you rather not follow and why?
 - How does following God’s Word help you grow in further following God’s Word?
- 3.** Sometimes we expect God to bring us success according to how we define success.
- What was the “success” that was promised to Joshua if he would obey?
 - How do we as Christians in our culture often define success?
 - Is that what God promises us if we obey?
 - How can even struggles and hardships contribute toward God’s bring of success to us (You might consider Romans 8:28-29 in your answer)?
- 4.** One of the main themes in the book of Joshua is the Presence of God going with the people of Israel into the Promised Land. Read Deuteronomy 31:1-8 and skim the subtitles in Josh. chs. 8-12.
- Why was God’s Presence so important in the people of Israel taking the Promised Land? What did it provide?
 - What situations in your life right now are difficult, and where you need God to go before you, to be with you, and to watch your back?
 - Spend some time in the Bible (you can use the cross references in point 3 above) and in prayer this week asking God to lead you, to be with you, and to be your defense. Then...move when He tells you to, knowing He’s with you.

NEXT WEEK: “Joshua: Remember,” Josh. 1:10-18

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