



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE.

### **Sermon Series // Joshua; Judges; Ruth**

**Supports Session 1:** Strong and Courageous

**Sermon Title:** "Courage for the Call" (Joshua 1:1-18)

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#### **Connection to Session 1**

Joshua's strength and courage came from observing the faithfulness of God over the years as Moses led the people out of Egypt and into the wilderness. He saw firsthand how God was faithful to his people time and time again. Like Joshua, Christians today have God's Word as a foundation of God's faithfulness. Because God is faithful, we can lead with confidence whenever and however He calls us. Whether big or small, we can trust God and walk in obedience.

#### **Introduction/Opening**

The book of Joshua begins at a transition point. Moses had died (Deut. 34:5-7), and Joshua stepped into leadership. Joshua faced the challenge of leading the people into the promised land, a huge task that brought fear of the unknown. Joshua's faithfulness to God and leadership actions are applicable for Christians today as they, too, follow God's calling into the unknown and step into leadership opportunities.

#### **Outline**

##### **1. God's promises give us confidence (vv. 1-6)**

- a. **God's Plan Continues** (vv. 1-2). Even though Moses had died, God's plan had not. Even when leadership inevitably changes, God's plan remains the same. He is not caught off guard by change and transition. When one season ends, God already has a plan for the next. He often calls people to step into leadership opportunities and trust Him.
- b. **God's Promise is Certain** (vv. 3-4). The land had already been given to God's people, and God had already cleared the path. Joshua simply needed to walk into the promise of God and then lead the people to experience the promise of God.
- c. **God's Presence is Consistent** (vv. 5-6). God promised His presence with Joshua and the people as they followed in obedience. He did not have to lead alone. God's presence is always with those who trust Him.

## 2. God's Word gives us courage (vv. 7-9)

- a. **Courage Comes from Obedience** (v. 7). Strength comes from obedience to God in the power of the Holy Spirit, not relying on one's own power. God's Word gives direction, stability, and clarity in times of uncertainty.
- b. **Meditation Leads to Maturity** (v. 8). God's Word is to be absorbed. Knowing the Word and voice of God helps to give direction in times of trouble.
- c. **God's Presence Drives Out Fear** (v. 9). The command "do not be afraid" is based on the truth of God's presence. When Christians obey God, we can be assured that God is with us.

## 3. God's people work together (vv. 10-18)

- a. **Joshua led with faith** (vv. 10-11). He stepped out in obedience and called the people to prepare to do the same. Joshua set the example for the people to follow God in obedience. Faith in action causes others to follow.
- b. **The people responded in unity** (vv. 12-18). Obedience and unity go hand in hand in God's kingdom. When Christians walk in obedience to God, they are more deeply unified than any other group in the world.

## Conclusion

God doesn't promise an easy path, but He does promise His Word, His presence, and His faithfulness. God will often call people to lead others into faithfulness and obedience. We can follow the example of Joshua by trusting God and leading others. We can have confidence, courage, and peace when God calls because we know that He is with us.

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