

Victorious Rest

God's promises, purpose, power, and presence give us assurance for our victorious rest.



GOD'S STORY
THE TRANSFORMATION FOR ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Joshua 1:1-9; 5:13-15

May 10, 2020

(Joshua 1:1-9) ¹After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ²"Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. ⁵No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. ⁷"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

(Joshua 5:13-15) ¹³Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?" ¹⁴"Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?" ¹⁵The commander of the LORD's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

COMMUNITY – CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER

- When have you felt the most overwhelmed or fearful?
- How did feeling this way affect your ability to focus and perform?
- How did (or should have) your faith in God speak to the situation and your feeling overwhelmed?

CONTENT – EXPLORING GOD'S STORY

Have a volunteer read Joshua 1:1-9

- Why would Joshua's succession of Moses require humility on his part as well as courage? What is the relationship between humility and courage? Can we have one without the other?
- What specific promises in verses 2-5 does God make to Joshua that should give him courage to lead the people and take the land? Why should Joshua have confidence in the LORD to come through on these promises?
- How do you personally use God's promises to cultivate courage in yourself?

Have a volunteer read Joshua 1:6-8

- In verse 6, God transitions from speaking to Joshua about promises for the future to His present purposes for him. Why is it important for us to never separate what God promises to do in the future from what He is calling us to do right now?
- According to verses 7-8, where was Joshua to turn to find God's purposes for us? Why is it important that we discern God's purposes for our lives from what He has revealed and commanded in Scripture (i.e., the Book of the Law)? How does this require faith?
- What type of success and prosperity is verse 8 talking about? How does meditating on and obeying God's Word achieve a different kind of success than how the world defines success?

Have a volunteer read Joshua 1:9

- Three times now God has said to Joshua, "Be strong and courageous." Why is that so important to Joshua? What words do you feel like God has to say to you over and over?
- According to verse 9, why should Joshua not be fearful? Why is God's presence our only true hope and security?
- Where else in Scripture do we see similar promises concerning God's presence?

Have a volunteer read Joshua 5:13-15

- When Joshua asked whose side this man was on (v. 14), the commander of the LORD's army said "Neither," meaning it was for God's cause alone that he came. What does this remind us about our relationship with God and our purpose in this life?
- The name "Jesus" is the Greek form of the Hebrew name "Joshua." Joshua was the man God raised up to lead his people to victorious rest in the Old Testament? How is Joshua a type of foreshadowing of the coming Jesus?

COMMISSION – ENGAGING IN GOD'S STORY

- Throughout Scripture God assures us of His presence and power at work in our lives. In what situation do you need to be reminded of God's presence this week?
- Where do you look for strength? What other things might you be relying on instead of God? How do you keep your focus on the only One who can bring about victory for you?
- What counts as victory? Is the rest you seek the same as that of those who don't know God? How do you know when you have the rest that God intends for you?

PRAYER: Close in prayer asking God to increase the group's faith in His ability to fulfill His promises and to use them in doing so. Pray that God's presence would become more real to them than their greatest fears.

CONTINUE TO JOURNEY THROUGH GOD'S STORY

Bible Reading Plan:

DAY 1 – Joshua 5:10-15, 6
 DAY 2 – Joshua 7-8
 DAY 3 – Joshua 23-24
 DAY 4 – Judges 2-3
 DAY 5 – Judges 4

KEY VERSE: Joshua 24:15

H.E.A.R. Method:

Highlight a verse or two.
 Explain what the text means.
 Apply the verse to your life.
 Respond to God.

Our team has put together Bible study resources to encourage and inspire you as you engage in God's Story. Visit chetscreek.com/gods-story for videos, study guides, and more.

OUR VISION

To be a church
 for the unchurched,
 here and around the world.

ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Gospel-centered communities that aim to KNOW
 GOD together and BE CHANGED by Him in a
 way that will CHANGE THE WORLD.