

THE STORY



THE BATTLE BEGINS

Deuteronomy 31 & Joshua 1-24

BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

*"Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, **"Be strong and courageous,** for you shall go with this people into the land that the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. It is the LORD who **goes before you.** He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."* Numbers 11:18

The LORD goes _____ so be _____ & _____.

A LOST ART AMONG US

*"Has his unfailing love vanished forever? Has his promise failed for all time? Has God forgotten to be merciful? Has he in anger withheld his compassion?" Then I thought, "To this I will appeal: the years when the Most High stretched out his right hand. I will remember the deeds of the LORD; yes, I will remember your miracles of long ago."
Psalm 77:8-11*

We find _____ & _____ looking forward when we can find strength & courage looking back.

SET YOUR ALTARS

Remember His _____.

"In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?' ... These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever ... He did this so that all the peoples of the earth might know that the hand of the LORD is powerful and so that you might always fear the LORD your God." Joshua 4:6,7,24

MEDITATE DAY & NIGHT

Remember His _____.

"Keep 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." Joshua 1:8

BE STILL AS HE GOES

Remember His _____.

"Have 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 1:9

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Chapter 7: The Battle Begins

Sermon on March 13, 2022

Introductory Video Link: <https://bit.ly/ch6Wading>

Getting to Know Me

1. What's the best advice you've ever been given? Did you follow it?
2. What is your earliest childhood memory?

Digging Deeper

3. What insight or observation from Sunday's message did you find most helpful, eye-opening, or challenging? Why?
4. In Joshua 3 and 4, we read how God allowed the Israelites to cross the Jordan River on dry land then built an altar of 12 stones. What is the purpose of this altar? Do you have any altars of remembrance dedicated to what God has done in your life?
5. After Achan's failure, Joshua read the entire Law to the whole nation and foreigners with them. Why was this an important moment for the Israelites before God?

6. God's promise to go before Joshua and the Israelites into the Promised Land is found in Deuteronomy 31:8. How does this compare to Jesus' promise to us in John 14:1-4? Do you believe God goes before you in your everyday life? How can, or does, that belief change the way you live?
7. The Gibeonites tricked Joshua into signing a covenant with them (Joshua 9), and Joshua did not seek God's wisdom before he signed. Even so, Joshua kept the agreement. Read Joshua 9:18-19. What lessons can we learn from this about keeping our own word?
8. Pastor Phil and Pastor Luke have said that "all of scripture whispers Jesus' name." Where do you see whispers of Jesus in this chapter of the story? Look at Joshua 5:13-15.

Where Do I Go from Here?

9. In Joshua 24:15, Joshua makes the oath, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." How does that promise to God work itself out in today's world?
10. We talked about the disciplines of remembering God's actions, words and presence. Which do you think you do best/worst? What are some ways to do each of them better?

Prayer

Thank God for going before you. Ask Him for faith to be strong and courageous.