

Joshua 1

1:1 – What significant transition is now happening in the life of Israel?

What does it feel like to lose a beloved leader?

Deuteronomy 34:8 – How did the nation of Israel respond?

Deuteronomy 34:1-7 – Describe these last moments of Moses' life:

Who buried Moses?

Deuteronomy 34:9 – What do we learn about Joshua?

How has God set him apart and prepared him for leadership?

Deuteronomy 34:10-12 – Tensions always exist in the life of a Christian. How do we properly keep the balance of honoring what God has done and preparing for what He is about to do?

What happens to a church when they overly embrace their past and don't look to prepare for the future? For the next generation?

What happens when the new generation forgets to honor, learn from and respect the previous generation?

How can Bible Center do both well?

If a church is declining and embracing only methods that worked in a previous generation - what is happening? What is the future of this church? What changes would need to be made?

Joshua 1:2-3 – What is God’s role in taking the land?

1:5 – What is the basis for their success? 1:6 – How should this affect their hearts?

The land can be viewed more as a gift to be received than a goal achieved. It is the result of a promise not an adventure of unknown outcome. In our Christian life, we are given promises, and at the same time called to action.

Philippians 1:6 – What is God’s promise?

Philippians 2:12 – What is our role?

Philippians 2:13 – What is God’s role?

God’s promise and presence frees us to live in faith, taking steps of action and courage, trusting in God’s ever-extended hand of protection.

Joshua 1:6 – What prevents us from living a life of strength and courage?

What would your neighborhood look like if you and all the Christians who lived there lived on mission with strength and courage?

1:7-8 – How can courage be connected to obedience in God’s Word?

The law (in addition to the stone tablets) was written on scrolls and kept in the ark. It was periodically read to all the whole nation. They were to keep it in their hearts and talk about it together. We have dozens of translations: Bibles for nurses, moms, mechanics..., study Bibles, journaling Bibles, Bible apps, Bible verse magnets... there is never a moment when we do not have access to God’s Word.

Yet, how often does it “depart from our mouth?” How often do we turn to the left and the right to walk our own path? What are your next steps for bringing the Bible back to the center of your life?

What is your present form of Scriptural study? Are you motivated to do it? Have you been consistent?

How can you improve your consistency? How could others play a role in helping you grow in your knowledge and study of God's Word?

What role can your community group play?

2 Timothy 2:2 – If you have been studying God's Word for years, who are you building into? How are you discipling the next generations? Are you helping anyone else learn how to study God's Word?

1:9 – Is "be strong and courageous" just a slogan for the people?

Do we recognize this as a command for today? How are we being called to strength and courage in this phase of our life, in our current circumstances, and in our difficult relationships?

2 Corinthians 5:20 – How does strength and courage fit into living out this verse? What are ways that we fill our time and expend our energy so that we avoid being a witness to our friends, co-workers, and neighbors?

What courageous step could you take this week in communicating God's love through word or deed?

There are times when we will even use personal study, church involvement, and our devotions as an excuse for not having time to spend time with people who still need to hear about Jesus. How can we bring balance?

The people of Israel were called to a devotion to the knowledge of God's Word and to the conquest of the Promised Land. Our lives must also have a balance of spiritual nourishment and spiritual exercise. God's Word will impact our hearts and then we must give it away to others.

1:10-15 – The Reubenites and Gadites and the half-tribe of Manaseh were promised the lands on the east side of the Jordan. They were already standing on the land that God had promised them. Yet, they were called to arms and to participation in the conquest. Why would Joshua require this?

What does this tell us about how the people of Israel (the nation as a whole) were to view themselves?

How do we see the power of family at work in our church? In our personal life and spiritual growth?

Can you think of a time when you (and the ministry with which you are involved) had to support and assist another ministry? What might be a way for you and your group to go to war for another ministry in the church?

1:16-18 – How have the people responded to Joshua's leadership?

What would happen to those that did not follow his leadership?

There is a time to honor the past and grieve the transition of relationships. There is also a time to recognize the opportunity in front of us. Can you write out our BCC mission?

What is our BCC vision?

What is your next step in becoming more involved with this mission? Where do you need additional strength and courage?