



Text: Joshua 1: 1-11

The Plain Truth

We overestimate the _____
and we underestimate the _____.

1) _____

2) _____



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JOSHUA CELEBRATION

Personal Study • Week of August 21

The story of Joshua picks up after the death of Moses. Joshua had been Moses' apprentice and Joshua saw first-hand how God used this humble man to lead an entire nation out of slavery—something that had never been done before.

Moses was a remarkable leader. He led the descendants of Jacob (Israel) out of four hundred years of Egyptian bondage to the mountain of Sinai where they learned that God is a God to be feared. Moses led the Israelites through a forty-year trek in the wilderness where they further witnessed God's awesome power, received God's life-giving commands and the blue print for the Tabernacle. Moses led Israel through great trials and tests, and eventually up through Edom and Moab where they actually conquered lands on the east side of the Jordan River.

Moses led the Hebrews right up to the edge of the Promised Land, but then it was time for Moses to pass the mantle of leadership to Joshua: "Then Moses called for Joshua, and as all Israel watched, he said to him, 'Be strong and courageous! For you will lead these people into the land that the LORD swore to their ancestors He would give them. You are the one who will divide it among them as their grants of land. Do not be afraid or discouraged, for the LORD will personally go ahead of you. He will be with you; He will neither fail you nor abandon you'" (Deuteronomy 31:7-8).

Read Joshua 1:1-11

As we enter this four week series leading up to our JOSHUA CELEBRATION on the weekend of September 10th and 11th, Pastor Charles has asked that we begin with the end in mind. Our goal is to "take the land" and live into the promises of our Lord through a personal relationship with Christ and serving others in His name. But we don't just get there by happenstance or sitting idly on the sidelines. We get to that place by rolling up our sleeves and countering apathy with action, evil with good.

1. We often over-estimate the goal but underestimate the process. How can our journey of faith – learning what it means to be a friend of God and learning how to love people – be a joy in itself?

Though your journey may often be like a two-lane road, joy right alongside the trials, how are you growing more like Christ in spite of problems?

Three times in vv6-9 the Lord tells Joshua, "Be strong and courageous!" And the Lord makes it very clear: the only way to prosper and succeed is to obey God's instruction book – His living Word. When we begin to deviate or drift from God's truth, we risk derailing our faith.

2. How has God's Word become bedrock in your faith journey?

How has worshiping and learning in a Life Group developed you personally?

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