



## Group Discussion Questions

Reaching Forward - January 16 | January 19, 2020

**Group Discussion:** Were you ever embarrassed in Jr. High School, did you have to forgive someone for embarrassing you?

**Read:** Joshua 2

What do you know of Joshua? What did you know previously, and/or what did you learn during Sunday's sermon? Describe some of the events that Joshua would have observed as the assistant of Moses.

There were 3 Theological Truths that were gleaned from Joshua 2, which one of those is most meaningful to you personally?

#1. Salvation is always by grace, or #2. Your past doesn't determine your future, 3. Your mess can be a part of your message?

#1. Salvation is always by grace. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Notice that grace is the act of God not something that we do or create! God gives us grace so how have you depended on or used God's grace after you received it from Him? Paul says the conduit of grace from God into your life is faith, when and how did you place your faith in Christ? Paul also says in vs. 9 we don't work our way into salvation (saved vs. 8) it is a gift, but after salvation we are born again or made alive in Christ and it is within that new life we've been given the assignment of good works (vs. 10), so what good works do you think you've been assigned by God to do? We don't earn salvation but we are given gifts, abilities, strength and assignments in our new life in Christ.

#2. Your past doesn't determine your future. What was one of the past struggles in your life you're attempting to overcome through the power of the Holy Spirit?

#3. Your mess can be a part of your message. Do you find it easier to dialogue with people who come from a similar background as you? Have you ever been on vacation far from Visalia and found someone who is also from Visalia? Did you strike up a conversation? Pick one pair of words and share with your group the process of how God changed you from the first word to the second word: angry to patient, avoidant to engaged in relationship, depressed to joyful, unloving to loving, anxious to peaceful, cheap to generous, hermit to interactive, unprayerful to prayerful.

**Family Time:** Pick a new activity you can add to your family to teach your kids that it's okay to change and do something new and different in your family. Maybe it's adding prayer to a meal, at bedtime, when you get in the car, Saturday morning for the day. Maybe it's reading a Bible story one night a week at bedtime or every night when possible. Maybe it's doing something kind once a week like cookies to a neighbor or picking up a piece of trash in a parking lot or saying please more often. Something that helps them understand that God can change us and give us new routines or activities.