

THE CONQUEST OF OBEDIENCE

a study of Joshua 5-12

Series Overview and Guides

2021-2022 ANNUAL THEME | SERIES 6

APRIL - JULY

Objective

what we hope to see God accomplish in us through this study

That we conquer evil in our lives and times by trusting and obeying God.

STATEMENTS OF THE OBJECTIVE

"Joshua then said to them, 'Do not fear or be dismayed! Be strong and courageous, for thus the LORD will do to all your enemies with whom you fight.'"

—Joshua 10:25 NASB

"The main theme of the Bible is God's holy warfare against Satan and sin."

—Warren W. Wiersbe
Be Strong

"Thank God that He will not make peace with sin in my heart! I bless His name for the thunder of His authority, and for the profound conviction that He is fierce and furious in His anger against sin, wherever it manifests itself."

—G. Campbell Morgan
Living Messages of the Books of the Bible



Frisco Bible Church
a redeemed community

Premise

why we are studying this

The Christian today needs to recognize the power of the conquering God. By renewing our understanding of the awesome might of the Lord, we are more likely to enjoy the trusting obedience that makes the Christian life joyful and productive. This is a grace situation, in that the sovereign Lord cares so deeply for us as to provide for us the power and opportunity to obey.

STATEMENTS OF THE PREMISE

"And the commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, 'Take off your sandals from your feet, for the place where you are standing is holy.' And Joshua did so."

—Joshua 5:15 ESV

"May grace and peace be multiplied to you through the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord. His divine power has given us everything required for life and godliness through the knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness."

—2 Peter 1:2-3

"God is sovereign. It is never a question of whether God is on our side but whether we are on God's side...The Lord was the real military leader of the Conquest...The purpose of this encounter was not to impart commands but to inspire Joshua with humility and reverence and to instill in him the confidence that God was with him and was in control."

—Donald Madvig
Joshua

Theme

what the study is about

The conquest is first and foremost a conquest of our own hearts. The all-powerful Lord will accomplish His purposes. The question is whether the follower of God will get to experience the joy of participative partnership in the process. When we obey, we not only experience the joy of conquering our own flesh, but also the joy of conquering evil in our time. When we disobey, we become part of the problem.

STATEMENTS OF THE THEME

"Israel has sinned. They have violated my covenant that I appointed for them. They have taken some of what was set apart. They have stolen, deceived, and put those things with their own belongings. This is why the Israelites cannot stand against their enemies."

—Joshua 7:11-12

"Sin among the people of God either diminishes the conditional blessing or brings the blessing to a halt until it is confessed, judged, and removed."

—Francis Schaeffer
Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History

OVERALL THEMES OF JOSHUA

At least eight big ideas drive the thought in *Joshua*: YHWH's character, God's promises, undaunted leadership, the land, the Mosaic covenant, obedience, holiness, and rest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The content of this study guide is based on the sermon and personal study notes of

Dr. M. Wayne Braudrick
Lead Pastor, Frisco Bible Church

and is developed by the Frisco Bible Curriculum Team:

Writers:

Ken Bergstedt, AJ Rinaldi, Randall Satchell, Steve Wilson

Editors:

AJ Rinaldi, Randall Satchell

Layout and Design:

Steve Wilson

SCRIPTURE QUOTATIONS

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are taken from the Christian Standard Bible®, copyright © 2017 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Christian Standard Bible® and CSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.

SERMON ACCESS ONLINE

You can watch the related sermons at <https://friscobible.com/watch-messages>



or by scanning the QR code.

Then select **Series** and search for **Conquest of Obedience**.

PERMISSION

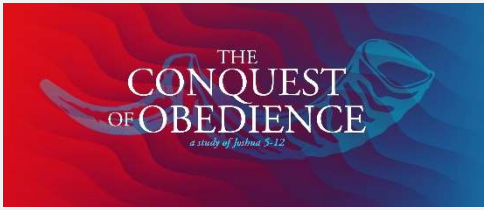
You are welcome to copy and distribute this study guide for your personal or group study.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Frisco Bible Church
8000 Sanctuary Drive
Frisco, TX 75033
972.335.8150
contactus@friscobible.com
www.friscobible.com

SERIES 6 | SESSION 1

GROUP DISCUSSION



ANNUAL THEME 2021-2022

UNDAUNTED

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 5:13-15

KEY IDEAS

THEME

Joshua meets the angel of the Lord who reminds our hero that it is the Lord who conquers. Especially telling is that the Lord's commander is not particularly "for" anyone; rather, he is for the will of the Lord. We know that Joshua is leading according to the name and will of God, yet this sequence before the conquest serves to remind us that obedience to God's will is the primary issue in moving forward. Of course, the scene also establishes Joshua on par with Moses who had a similar experience at the burning bush. Further, this shows that the place where the Lord engages with people is holy, and that such occurrences are not reserved for particular shrines as in the ancient religions or in modern Islam.

OBJECTIVE

We bow our hearts before the holy Conqueror.

THE LEADING PERSON

"The leading person in the Book of Joshua is not Joshua but the Lord Jehovah, the God of Joshua and Israel."

—Warren W. Wiersbe
Be Strong

PRAYER

Pray for each other this week, that we humbly obey our mighty God.

Use the back of this page to write prayer requests.

Session 1: The Right Question

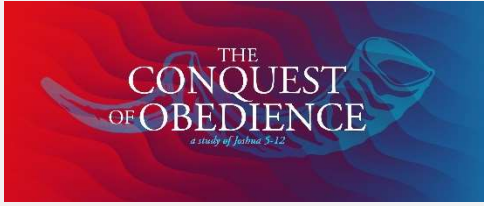
1. Read the Premise and Theme of this study on the first page of this guide.
 - a. What idea stands out the most to you? Why?
 - b. Based on that introduction, what are you looking forward to learning through this series?
2. Review the events in Joshua's life from Egypt to Gilgal.
 - a. What were some things Joshua learned about his mighty God?
 - b. What were some things he learned about people?
3. Read Joshua 5:13-15.
 - a. Discuss possible interpretations of who this person was who confronted Joshua.
 - b. Why was Joshua concerned about this man's allegiance?
 - c. What did the man's answer (v. 14) tell Joshua? Identify at least three things.
 - d. How did Joshua respond? What does this tell us about Joshua?
 - e. Why was it important for Joshua to know what to do next?
4. Read the Objective of this series on the first page of this guide.
 - a. How might this objective change your response to sin in your life?
 - b. How might it change your response to the world around you?



Frisco Bible Church
a redeemed community

SERIES 6 | SESSION 2

GROUP DISCUSSION



ANNUAL THEME 2021-2022

UNDAUNTED

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 6:1-19

KEY IDEAS

THEME

The divine plan for taking Jericho is revealed. It contains four major and surprising elements:

- 1) The certainty of victory – an oddity given the impregnable nature of the city & its forces.
- 2) The leading presence of the ark & priests – a surprise that extends even through a Sabbath.
- 3) The short siege ending with a miraculous victory—not the way such things were done.
- 4) The devotion of all to the Lord – a faith-stretching choice given huge grain stores and a million+ Israelites who no longer get manna.

OBJECTIVE

We are hopefully devoted to God’s Word.

DIVINE PLANS

“A plan for conquering the land of Canaan with its fortified cities and giants was, of course, crucial, but God never leaves His people to their own strategies. He comes to their aid with His own divinely-provided plan. Indeed, we are repeatedly warned in Scripture against leaning on our own understanding or plans.”

—J. Hampton Keathley, III
Destroying Fortresses; Victory at Jericho

PRAYER

Pray for each other this week, that we fully trust and obey God’s Word.

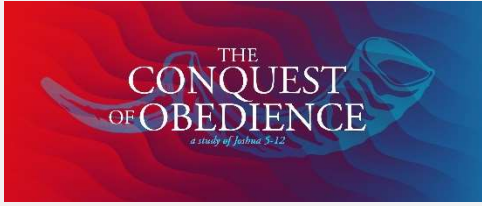
Session 2: Dedicated to the Lord

1. Have you ever followed God’s leading even when it didn’t make sense? What gave you the confidence to do that?
2. Read Joshua 6:1-5.
 - a. What parts of this plan are shocking?
 - b. Why would trusting God’s word by obeying this plan be extremely difficult?
3. Read Joshua 6:6-16.
 - a. What was the confidence of the Israelites? (See verses 2 and 16.)
 - b. What is our confidence in our daily battles? (See 1 Corinthians 10:13.)
 - c. What is our ultimate confidence? (See Revelation 20:7-10.)
4. Read Joshua 6:17-19.
 - a. What was Israel told to do with the spoils of victory?
 - b. How was this similar to the offering of first fruits? (See Leviticus 23:9-14 and Proverbs 3:9.)
 - c. Why would trusting God’s word by obeying this plan be extremely difficult?
5. Read Matthew 5:1-12.
 - a. What parts of this plan are shocking?
 - b. Why is trusting God’s word by obeying this plan often extremely difficult?
 - c. Which of these areas are the most challenging for you?
6. What are some ways that we admit our weakness and demonstrate our trust in God’s Word?



SERIES 6 | SESSION 3

GROUP DISCUSSION



ANNUAL THEME 2021-2022

UNDAUNTED

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 6:20-27

KEY IDEAS

THEME

The impregnable fortress is juxtaposed with the very pregnable female. I am not trying to be grotesque, the parallel is there and intended. That's why God continues to call her a prostitute long after her biblically illegal work ended. The wall falls in a shout and its lineage is cursed. The woman lives on and is famous throughout all history (see Ruth 4, Matthew 1:5, Hebrews 11:31, James 2:5).

OBJECTIVE

We trust God for our salvation and legacy.

SUPERNATURAL VICTORIES

"All the aspects of the battle at Jericho strengthened Israel's faith in Yahweh. God's people learned His strength and ability to overcome all their obstacles by personal experience here. They acted in faith obeying His Word and trusting in the outcome He had promised. This day Israel reached a high-water mark in her spiritual history. We should learn the same things from this record as well as from the supernatural victories God has given each of us."

—Eugene H. Merrill, *Bibliotheca Sacra*
 "The Late Bronze/Early Iron Age Transition and the Emergence of Israel"

PRAYER

Pray for each other this week, that we trust God with our personal future and our legacy.

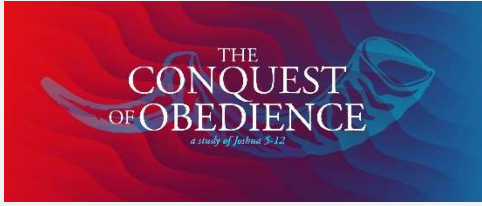
Session 3: The Wall Collapsed

1. Read Joshua 6:20-27.
 - a. What was the physical state of the city beforehand? How were they mentally (see 2:8-10)?
 - b. What was the physical state of Rahab beforehand? How was she spiritually (see 2:11-14)?
 - c. What happened to the city?
 - d. Read Hebrews 11:31. Why was Rahab set apart? What made the difference?
2. According to Joshua 6:26 and 1 Kings 16:34, what was the legacy of the great city?
3. What was the legacy of the lowly Rahab? See Matthew 1:1, 5-6.
4. How does our faith rescue us from the day of judgment?
5. How does our faith set us apart from the world?
6. How can our faith affect our legacy?



SERIES 6 | SESSION 4

GROUP DISCUSSION



ANNUAL THEME 2021-2022

UNDAUNTED

SCRIPTURE READING

Joshua 7:1-26

KEY IDEAS

THEME

Three As are used by the Almighty (another A!) to illustrate the necessity of obedience in moving forward with the Lord. Achan, Ai, and Achor each teach us a great deal. Achan illustrates the pain of coveting. Ai shows the effect of one person's faithlessness. Achor forever reminds people of the pain of disobedience.

OBJECTIVE

We obey our heavenly Father.

OBEDIENCE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

"Once we have become Christians, we have entered, by faith, by the grace of God, into the spiritual portion of the Abrahamic covenant; and the unconditional promise applies to us – we will never, never, never be lost again. While this is true, the New Testament also makes plain that for the Christian as for the Old Testament Jew there is also a conditional aspect. The moral law is the expression of God's character, and we are not to set it aside when we become Christians. Our obedience to it will make a difference in what happens to us both in this present life and in the believers' judgment in the future."

—Francis Schaeffer
Joshua and the Flow of Biblical History

PRAYER

Pray for each other this week, that we trust and obey our great Father.

Session 4: AAA Disaster Repair

1. Review Joshua's command in Joshua 6:18-19, and then read 7:1-9.
 - a. Why did God allow Ai to become a disaster for Israel?
 - b. What was Joshua's reaction? What was his assumption?
 - c. When troubling times visit you, are you more apt to blame God, or to look inward? Why?
2. Read Joshua 7:10-21.
 - a. What can we learn about God from this episode?
 - b. From Achan's confession, what were the steps to his sin? Discuss the similarities to Genesis 3:6 and James 1:14-15.
 - c. As redeemed believers, what is our hope in the midst of temptation? Discuss 1 Corinthians 10:11-13.
3. Finish reading Joshua 7 (verses 22-26).
 - a. How would you characterize Joshua's obedience to the Lord?
 - b. What did the Valley of Achor become for the newly born nation of Israel? What was the intended lesson?
 - c. Read the account of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5:1-11. How was this similar to Achor for the newly born Church?
4. As a Christian, what is your motivation to obey God's Word?
5. Why is obedience an essential component of the Christian life?

