

Group Questions – Joshua 13-21 – Thrill of Victory & Agony of Defeat

Share a time you experienced victory in your life.

As best you can, describe what victory feels like to you.

Joshua 13-21 is the victory of the fulfilled promise of God to Abraham. This promise was given 681 years before it was fulfilled.

Share a time you had to wait a long time for God to fulfill a promise to you.

Why do we sometimes give up on God's promises that are taking a long time?

Read – 2 Corinthians 1:20, Romans 11:29, and Philippians 1:6

What do these verses teach us about God's promises?

The Israelite victory could have been derailed because of a previous defeat.

How can current defeat keep us from experiencing future victory?

When the Israelites first entered the Promised Land, they experienced a great victory at Jericho, followed by a crushing defeat at Ai.

Share a time in your life when you experienced a defeat soon after a victory.

Read – Joshua 7:6-9

This was Joshua's response to the defeat at Ai...

- 1) He QUESTIONED GOD'S PLAN and PROMISE
- 2) He WISHED he could GO BACK to how things were before
- 3) He FEARED the FUTURE... the possibility of MORE DEFEAT

Of these 3, which do you struggle with the most in times of defeat?

Joshua was a very courageous leader.

What does his response to defeat reveal about weakness in us all?

Though Joshua was in a bad mindset, what was the brilliant thing he did?

Read – 1 Peter 5:7

What does it mean to you to cast ALL your cares to the Lord?

Why is it difficult for us to cast ALL our cares to the Lord?

If we don't cast ALL our cares to the Lord, what are the other options?

After Joshua casts his cares to God, he listens to God speak to him.

Read – Joshua 7:10

Why do you think God told Joshua this?

Read – Philippians 3:13-14

How did Paul handle past defeat in his life?

Why do you think it's important to focus on the future instead of the past?

Both Peter and Judas “betrayed” Jesus

How did Peter and Judas handle their defeat differently?

Joshua listened to God, got up, and did what God called him to do.

Read the result of Joshua moving out of the place of defeat...

Read – Joshua 21:43-45

How might us, staying in a place of defeat, effect other people's lives?

Close in a time of prayer asking God to help you move from defeat into victory.