

GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

1. What life lessons did you learn long ago that you still use today?

LOOKING BACK:

We are in our fourth week of BSAC (Be Strong and Courageous) series of messages. The Israelites are about to enter the Promised Land. They will see a 600 year-old promise fulfilled. God has been preparing this generation to take possession of the land and begin a new chapter in Israel's history. Yet, it will not be easy. It will take strength and courage to lay hold of the promise, the patterns that God has set for them, and lay hold of God himself. Everything that has happened up to this point in time has been orchestrated by God for this moment. The same is true for you. God has placed a specific purpose and plan on you for this season of your life. When we step out toward that purpose God works miracles on our behalf because that plan is guaranteed and secure in the Lord. It's time to step in the Jordan!

2. Think about a monumental event in your life— like a wedding, deciding where to attend school, buying a house, or moving out of state. What helped you make that decision? Did you receive some sort of a sign or confirmation that helped you know how to make your decision?

DIGGING DEEPER:

Verse: Joshua 1:1-18

The Israelites spent 400 years in bondage in Egypt and then another 40 years in the wilderness. During that time, Joshua served Moses faithfully, continuing to believe that God would follow through on his promises. He would not have been the same leader without those seasons of preparation.

3. How have seasons of preparation proved to be opportunities for growth in your life?
4. Can you see how events in your life now make sense when, at the time, it would have been nearly impossible to understand? Explain.

TAKING IT HOME:

On Sunday, Dale gave us 2 points of application:

Take your stance in what you're expecting God to do; there will be obstacles but they do not change your stance.

Don't wither before a wall; circle it with praise (see Joshua 6).

Your whole life has prepared you for the moment you are about to step into. Joshua 1:10 says, "So Joshua ordered..." Joshua took action based on God's word. "Ordered" was his first step; his "verb of obedience."

5. What plan, purpose or promise has God placed in front of you right now? What is your "verb of obedience" that will help you take your first courageous step into your tomorrows? Do you have a fear that might hinder you? Who can you rally to help you?