



onechurch

bigIdea



Today, we see that everything—even good things—have to come to an end. The death of Moses left a huge hole in the hearts of God’s people. Yet even though Moses is dead and gone, Moses did some very intentional things to make sure that his leadership left a legacy long after he was pushing up daisies. Moses replaced himself long before he ever died, so that God’s work never missed a beat.

BIG IDEA: To leave a legacy, we must replace ourselves with Faithful, available, & teachable people.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What employer-employee, teacher-pupil, or coach-player relationship has most influenced you? How?
2. What instructions did your mom usually repeat at least three times as you left the house?
3. Have you ever felt overwhelmed with responsibility? When was it? Why did you feel overwhelmed? How did everything work out?
4. *Read Deuteronomy 34.* Who do you suppose buried Moses if he was all alone when he died? Who do you suppose wrote this epitaph for Moses? (*Deuteronomy 34:7-10, 12*)

Before Joshua steps on the scene—before something is birthed and something new comes to life—something else has to die. In order for the Israelites to get into their promised land, Moses—God’s leader—had to die.

Sometimes—if we’re going to go into the promises God has for us—good things have to die so that others can live. Sometimes good dreams have to die so that God’s dreams can flourish.

5. Sometimes God shows us that even some good things—some Moses things—must die in order for us to gain Momentum and step foot into the Promised Land. What sort of things in your life do you think God wants to end so that new adventures can begin?
6. How did Israel respond to the death of Moses? What happened to Joshua after this? (*Deuteronomy 34:9, Joshua 1*) Why did the Israelites look to Joshua as their new leader?
7. In your own words, describe the principle of *replace yourself*.
8. *Read Joshua 1.* Put yourself in Joshua’s shoes. He has just lost his best friend and his mentor, and now you are asked to fill his shoes—the most popular and powerful man in Israel’s history. How do you feel? What are you thinking? What is your greatest fear? Your greatest challenge?
9. How many times does God tell Joshua to be strong and courageous? What do you think that this says about Joshua’s demeanor?
10. What promises are given to Joshua? (*Joshua 1:3-5, 9*) Which ones ask Joshua to look back and remember God? Which ones ask him to look forward and believe God? How are our past and our future connected by faith?
11. God gave Joshua five direct commands in verses 7-8, all related to His laws. Can you list them?
12. What was necessary for success in Joshua 1:7? What do you think God meant here by success?
13. *Read Joshua 1:5-9.* Which command given to Joshua would have been the toughest for you to obey? Why?
14. Which one of His promises would be most helpful to you if you were ‘left on your own’?
15. What challenges lie before you now? What fear might hinder you?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. Joshua 1:7

