

FORWARDING: 5 TAKE-AWAYS FROM JOSHUA

“Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.” Joshua 1:9

1. When we're Forwarding we're Pressing On

“I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.”
(Philippians 3:12)

a. Our New Nature brings a Divine Dissatisfaction

“He that is born of God cannot sin.” (1 John 3:9)

b. Our New Nature makes us Hungry for More

2. Forwarding is about Sanctification

Sanctification is a Position You Hold and a Process You Pursue, Held Together with a Promise

• Positioned: From Slaves To Sons, From Sons To Heirs

a. Sanctification Means Being Declared Holy and Dedicated to God

b. Israel Was Set Apart and Identified As Holy By the Blood of the Lamb (Exodus 3:15, Exodus 13:18, Exodus 19:5-6)

c. Believers Are Identified As Holy and Receive A New Nature By the Blood of the Lamb (1 John 3:1)

“For you did not receive a spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry “Abba Father.” The Spirit Himself testified with our spirit that we are God’s children. Now if we are children, we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in His sufferings in order that we may also share in His glory.”
Romans 8:15-17

- **Pursuit: Embracing Identity, Pursuing New Life**

- a. Israel's New Identity Meant Pursuing Their Inheritance

"... Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses." Joshua 1:2-3

- b. Believers new identity are declared holy, but does not make them sinless. But they sin less and less.

"Not that I have already attained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to *take hold* of that for which Christ Jesus has *taken hold of me*." Philippians 3:17

- c. We pursue and conquer together

"You are to help your brothers until the Lord gives them rest as He has done for you and until they too have taken possession of the Land that the Lord your God is giving them" Joshua 1:15

- **Promise: God's Empowering Presence**

- a. They could conquer because He was with them.

"... Be strong and courageous...for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9

- b. We conquer because Jesus was victorious.

"..for everyone who is born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith." John 5: 4

3. Forwarding is about Fighting

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.”
(II Timothy 4:7)

a. Hostility can be Holy

“I have sworn upon the altar of God eternal hostility against every form of tyranny over the mind of man.” (Thomas Jefferson)

b. Your most honorable battles may be Invisible and Unpraised

c. Passivity may be your Targeted Tyrant

d. Passivity is a Default to Darkness

4. Forwarding is about Future-ing:

a. Future-ing is about walking in the LIGHT

“The path of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn, shining every brighter til the full light of day. But the way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know what makes them stumble.” - Proverbs 4:18-19

b. The path forward is enlightened to see a glorious inheritance and experience an incomparably great enabling power.

“I pray that the *eyes of your heart may be enlightened* in order that you might now the hope to which He has called you, and the riches of His *glorious inheritance* in the saints, and His *incomparably great power to us* who believe.” Ephesians 1:18-19

5. “Let us be Likeminded” (Philippians 3:15)

Questions for Reflection

1. This morning, did any unconquered land in your own life come to mind? Are you willing to bring that to light and act on it now? Why or why not?
2. When you look back to where and when God found you and made you His own, what is the difference between where you were then, and where you are now?
3. Are there people in your life who know your areas of weakness, and who are "cheering you on" as you conquer new land?