

Vision to Grow



We want to grow in God, Community, and Mission.

How do we renew, rebuild, and restore foundations in us no matter what we go through? How can we be ready to enter into the new season that God has for us? Can we be ready?

Out of the Wilderness Season



Up until this point, the Israelites have experienced heartaches, death, votes of no-confidence in God their king, plagues, and despair. They have also experienced God's provision and hope, but those moments were overshadowed by their rebellion and wickedness against God.

Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. 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. Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. No one will be able to stand against you all the

days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. **Be strong and courageous**, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them.

“Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Have I not commanded you? **Be strong and courageous.** Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”

The New International Version. (2011). (Jos 1:1–9). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

There was so much wickedness, mistrust, self-orientation, and rebellion in the Exodus generation that needed to be weeded out. So God led them through the wilderness to re-orient their identity from an enslaved generation to a God centered generation.

However, an entire generation died due to their refusal to choose God as their source of life.

And now, they are about to get ready to cross over the Jordan into the land of Canaan.

Get up and prepare to leave this wilderness season behind you.

It was God's idea to give the Israelites land, promise, and bring them into a space in order to be a blessing for others. He wanted to bring them out of the old season and into another.



That time is right now for you and me and for Every Nation Church Seattle.

We are coming out of a "wilderness season" as a church for the last 10 years. In those last ten years, he has been rooting out wickedness, rebellion, self-orientation, mistrust and a lack of confidence in God's leadership.

He wants to bring us into "new land" to make us a blessing to the world around us.

The time is now for us to prepare to be different than before.
Arise and let your light shine; prepare for this season ahead!

Be Strong and Very Courageous

Joshua will need to lead and serve others in ways that he has never done before. It was time for him to fight battles that he didn't even know.



There were unforeseen challenges and tests that God was going to bring the Israelites through, and Joshua needed courage to walk through those tests and challenges.

I believe that God is going to call each of you to serve him in ways that you haven't before; ways to lead and serve his church, personal life, family, friends, and coworkers. God has new ways he wants you to show up in the world and spaces

and reveal his splendor and glory; God is going to call you to show others what HE is like. — Pastor Perry

This will not be easy.

Actually, it will be very hard.

This will require something from us — change, facing our fears, and learning how to walk with God in a new ways.

This will all require courage.

We need the will, the fortitude, and determination to do God's will no matter the challenge or test we may face.

Courage is bravery and intrepidity to encounter danger and difficulties with a firmness in your soul; to face fear and depression with a sense that sounds like, "**know** God is with me."



God commands *this*.

The kind of courage we are talking about is not self oriented or picking ourselves up by the boot straps or merely positive talk. The courage we are talking about is rooted and grounded in the strength that God provides:

Ephesians 6:10-13

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our

struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand

The New International Version. (2011). (Eph 6:10–13). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

We can strengthen ourselves in the LORD YHWH for he provides us all we need to be strong and very courageous.

Now is the time to get ready.

Throw off the old ways and old patterns.

Arise and strengthen yourselves

"I am done living under the lies that I'm a victim and that I have no choice to get out of this moment and serve God."

Leave the Lies Behind

As I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will never leave you nor forsake you. — YHWH

Joshua needed to hear this so that he could go forward with YHWH leading the charge.

Not Be Shaken

In order for you to leave the old a season and new season, we must be very careful to pay attention to everything they have said and written to do what it says and not just know what it says.

This is how we can withstand the storms of life — to put into practice the law of God. He taught us to obey him and that obedience is blessing.

There is no blessing outside of obedience.

Obedience to the law is building our lives on the rock so that we can strong and courageous.

We see stories every month it seems of some massive icon of Christianity being taken down by sexual scandal or some other abuse.

Somewhere somehow, they turned to the left or to the right from God's Law.

This hurts God's image.

This hurts God's church.

This hurts God's people.

God takes this very seriously. It's not just for Christian leaders to not turn to the left or to the right, **but for each and every one of us**, because each one of us represents, speaks for God's people and God himself. We are accountable to God and the Church for how we reveal Jesus to the world. What you do matters — whether good and for evil.

Pastor Perry & Danielle have committed to living what we preach. There is full transparency across our elders, phones, computers and everything else.

Our pastors and our staff team is deeply committed to holiness and to Christ.

We want you to make the same commitment — men and women. Because we as a people are commanded not to turn to the left or to the right from the Law of God.

If you are stuck in shame or bondage, we commit to each other not to shame you or condemn you but conquer the evil one in your life.

| Be careful not to turn to the left or to the right. — YHWH

YHWH Cares

He cares about your wellbeing, personal health, and your relationships with family. He cares about how you treat each other.

He cares about our wellbeing and when we live outside of his definition of what is good and what is bad, we will be destroying ourselves and those around us.

Obedience to his will is what will bring flourishing and prosperity.

Meditate on his Law day and night. Psalm 1 reminds us that to become a tree of life, we delight and meditate on the law day and night.

We can shelter others, nourish others, and bless others (Psalm 1), rebuild the ancient ruins (Isaiah 61), and bring life to those who were captive. WE have the power to do that if we are careful to meditate on his law and neither turn to the left or to the right.