

On Mission: Empowered for Outreach

“Courageous Faith: Taking the First Step”

Joshua 1:1-9

Mission: *“To serve as a beacon of God’s love, striving to be the hands and feet of Jesus, shining His light for all to see.”*

Sermon Introduction:

Our spiritual journey mirrors the experience of learning to ride a bike, especially in the initial stages when we grapple with where to fix our gaze. Just as focusing solely on the mechanics of biking can lead to struggle, so too can being self-focused and fixating on our own efforts to connect with God create unnecessary turmoil. As we delve into Joshua 1:1-9, we’re reminded to redirect our focus to Jesus, the ultimate destination of our faith journey.

A. Transition and Courageous Faith (Joshua 1:1)

1. Moses’ passing signifies a transition for Israel, which can be likened to transitions we may face in our lives.
2. Embracing seasons of change requires courageous faith, as seen in Joshua’s example.
3. Just as Joshua was commissioned to step out in faith, we are called to do the same (Matthew 28:19-20).

B. God’s Promises for Victory (Joshua 1:2)

1. Reflecting on God’s promise of victory to Joshua extends beyond his time, resonating with the assurance of victory in Christ.
2. Through Christ, we are assured of victory (Romans 8:37), empowering us to face challenges with confidence.

C. Abundance of God’s Provision (Joshua 1:3-4)

1. God’s promise of expansive territory to Joshua reflects His abundant provision, which we must embrace.
2. In our lives and in our church endeavors, we trust in God’s provision, knowing that He exceeds our expectations (Ephesians 3:20).

D. Assurance of God's Presence and Cultivating Courage and Boldness (Joshua 1:5-6)

1. God reassures Joshua of His presence and protection, instilling courage and boldness.
2. Similarly, we cultivate strength and courage in faith, knowing that God's Spirit empowers us (2 Timothy 1:7).

E. Prioritizing Obedience to God's Word (Joshua 1:7)

1. Joshua is instructed to prioritize obedience for success and blessing, highlighting the importance of aligning with God's will.
2. Aligning our lives with God's Word through obedience is crucial for navigating transitions and challenges.

F. Saturating Our Lives with God's Word (Joshua 1:8-9)

1. The command to meditate on God's Word underscores its significance in our success and prosperity.
2. Deliberate reflection on Scripture fosters transformation in our lives and ministry.
3. By letting the message of Christ dwell richly in us (Colossians 3:16), we equip ourselves to face transitions and challenges with faith and strength.
4. James 1 admonishes us not to be merely hearers of the Word but also doers, emphasizing the importance of applying God's Word in our actions and decisions.

Application:

A. Personal Application Takeaways:

1. Courage: Embrace change with courageous faith
2. Claim: Claim God's promises for victory
3. Align: Prioritize obedience to God's Word

B. Encouragement and Principles for Cornerstone Chapel:

1. Engage: Actively participate in ministries, volunteering, and outreach
2. Unity: Foster unity and collaboration within the church family
3. Vision: Get on board to the goal of reaching the lost and serving the community.