



**Sermon Discussion Guide: You've Got This**

**Series:** *Favorites*

**Date:** 08/03/2025

**Scripture:** Joshua 1:1–9 (NRSVue)

---

**Opening Prayer**

Faithful God,

You call us into new seasons with both promise and challenge. As we reflect today on the story of Joshua, remind us that You are with us—when we feel ready and when we don't. Fill us with strength and courage, not from ourselves but from Your presence. Help us to see where You are leading and trust that You go before us. In Jesus' name, Amen.

---

**Introduction & Context**

This week begins a new series called *Favorites: Words to Live By*—a chance to reflect not only on what we love, but why we love it. Pastor Shawn shared a few of his personal favorites, but also something deeper: one of his favorite scriptures, Joshua 1:1–9.

Joshua finds himself stepping into new leadership after Moses' death. It's a moment of transition, uncertainty, and calling. God speaks words of affirmation and courage: "*Be strong and courageous... I will be with you wherever you go.*"

Whether we're facing a new role, a hard season, or something that feels beyond us, Joshua's story reminds us that God equips the called, meets us in our fears, and never leaves us on our own.





## Discussion Questions

### 1. "Hello, My Name Is..."

Pastor Shawn compared beginning a new ministry role to going on a blind date—full of awkward first impressions and hope for connection.

- When have you faced a "new beginning" that felt intimidating or unknown?
- What helped you move forward with courage in that season?

### 2. Strength and Courage

Joshua is told repeatedly to be "strong and courageous."

- What does strength look like in your life right now? What about courage?
- Are there areas where you feel called to step up but hesitate out of fear or insecurity?

### 3. The Why Behind the Favorite

Joshua 1 is a favorite passage for Pastor Shawn because it speaks directly to his core fear: being controlled or vulnerable.

- Do you have a favorite scripture that speaks to your fears, hopes, or identity? Why does it resonate with you?
- What does Joshua's story say about how God meets us in our deepest fears?

### 4. God's Promises, Real Challenges

Joshua still had to lead through battles, fear, and unknown terrain—even after receiving God's promise.

- How do you hold onto God's promises when the path ahead is hard?
- What keeps you going when the challenges feel bigger than your confidence?

---

## Application & Challenge

### 1. Reflect on a Favorite

Take time this week to revisit a favorite scripture or story from the Bible. Ask:

- Why does this matter to me?
- What does it say about who God is—and who I am?

### 2. Practice Daily Courage

Try this prayer each morning:

*"God, give me the courage to face today with trust and strength. Remind me that You are with me—wherever I go."*



### 3. **Be There for Someone Else**

- Who in your life may need the encouragement Joshua received?  
Reach out with a word of affirmation, reminding them they don't walk alone.

---

### **Closing Prayer**

God of promise and presence,  
Thank You for going ahead of us into every challenge, transition, and unknown place.  
Like Joshua, we often feel unprepared—but You promise to be with us.  
Give us strength when we're tired, and courage when we're afraid.  
Help us trust in Your voice and follow Your lead.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

---

### **Key Takeaway**

You may feel uncertain about what's ahead—but God's voice is clear:  
*"Be strong and courageous. I am with you wherever you go."*

*This guide was developed from original content with the assistance of ChatGPT.*