

THE STORY
The Battle Begins
The Book of Joshua
Chapter 7 October 15, 2023
Pastor Mike Popovich

It takes great courage to live the life God has called us to.

“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. 3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. 4 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. 5 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. 6 Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. 7 “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.
Joshua 1:2-7 NIV

God wants you to be prepared for the obstacles that are ahead for you.

TAKING THE LAND

What miracle does God do today to prepare us to embrace the life He has prepared for us? That miracle is forgiveness.

Now the gates of Jericho were securely barred because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in. 2 Then the Lord said to Joshua, “See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men.
Joshua 6:1-2 NIV

Courageous Faith is speaking of what hasn't happened as if it already has.

So what is the battle plan?

March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. 4 Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. 5 When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.” Joshua 6:3-5 NIV

Joshua knows the battle belongs to the Lord.

Courage is not the absence of fear but moving forward in spite of fear.

God is big and the problem is small.

*Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand,
or with the breadth of his hand marked off the heavens?
Who has held the dust of the earth in a basket,
or weighed the mountains on the scales
and the hills in a balance?* Isaiah 40:12 NIV

BE STRONG AND COURAGEOUS.

How do you do that?

More than any other way is prayer.

Courage is fear that says its prayers.

Five words that will change your life.
Joshua 1:5 **'I will be with you.'**

Our faith and our courage and our strength come from God who is with us and in us.