



Exodus Study Questions

Week 14

You know the feeling—that pit-in-your-stomach, I-think-I’m-going-to-be-sick, kind of sensation. It can come on the first day of school, the first day on the job, or the late night before the big presentation. Are you cut out for it? Can you handle the moment? It’s the uncertainty of facing a big task and a barrel full of uncertainty. It’s the kind of feeling you might experience if you’re Joshua, standing on the banks of the Jordan River, knowing it’s your turn to lead. Welcome to the end of our look at the most epic account of the Old Testament!

Main Text: Joshua 1:1-9

Connect

1. Have you ever experienced a sense of dread over a looming situation? If so, talk about it with your group. How did you handle it and what was the outcome?
2. What did you find most significant from this week’s sermon?

Understand

Note: Since we’ve wandering out of the book of Exodus this week, we recommend watching The Bible Project’s 7-minute video on the book of Numbers at <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/numbers/>. It summarizes all we’re skipping over this week.

1. Read Joshua 1:1-9. What are the repeated phrases you hear in these verses? Imagine being in Joshua’s position. Why do you think these statements are repeated?
2. Consider the command to “be strong and courageous” (verses 6, 7, and 9). What are some of the reasons Joshua may be tempted to be “frightened and...dismayed” (verse 9) instead?
3. In addition to being courageous, what does the LORD command Joshua to give his primary attention to in verses 7-8? Do you see any kind of link between the message of these verses and the command to be strong and courageous? Talk about this with your group.

4. Exodus is not primarily about Moses, and Joshua is not ultimately about Joshua! Both are about our actively present God. Where do you see that communicated in these verses, and why is God's presence the foundation for everything else in this passage?
5. Read Matthew 28:16-20. What parallels do you see between Jesus's "Great Commission" to the disciples and Joshua 1:1-9?

Apply

1. Compare the call to strength and courage in these verses with how we think about those words in our society. From our culture's standpoint, where strength and courage come from? Where do they come from according to these verses?
2. What are you facing that you need strength and courage for from the LORD? Take time to pray for each other at the end of your time together.
3. The claim of this passage, as well as others like Psalms 1 and 19, is that God's Word is life-giving! Are you currently experiencing the life-giving nature of God's Word? How can you all, as a group, encourage each other toward this kind of encounter with the Bible?
4. God is present. God hears. God sees. God understands. God knows. Do you believe that? What difference does this make in your life right now? Take time to thank God together as a group for His active presence, even when we feel like we're in a place of bondage more than a place of promise.