

Be Strong & Courageous
Lesson 1
Joshua 1-2

Joshua continues the story that began in Exodus by recounting how God fulfilled His promise to their forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Joshua is the story of conquest and fulfillment.

God, Commander & Chief, Gave Joshua His Command - 1:1-18

1. How long after the death of Moses did God give Joshua his command?
(Deuteronomy 34:8)

2. What were God's instructions to Joshua? (Joshua 1:2)

3. God gave Joshua several promises to take into battle, what were they? (Joshua 1:3-5)

4. Three times in verses 6 - 9 God said "*be strong and courageous*" then gave a reason.
 - Verse 6:

 - Verses 7, 8:

 - Verse 9:

5. Joshua, in obedience to God's command, went to the leaders of the tribes. What did he say? (Joshua 1:10, 11)

6. Why did Joshua speak separately to the Reubenites, Gadites and the half tribe of Manasseh? (Joshua 1:12-15 and Numbers 32)

7. How did these tribes respond to Joshua's reminder? (Joshua 1:16, 17)

8. Reuben, Gad & the half tribe of Manasseh gave Joshua a rallying cry. What did they say to him? (Joshua 1:18)

9. Imagine yourself being in camp that day. Choose a person (Joshua, a tribal leader, a warrior or a woman - either of the Transjordan tribes or the other 9 ½ tribes) and write what they may be feeling or thinking.

Rahab & the Spies - 2:1-24

10. In Numbers 13, Israel was ready to enter the Promised Land. Spies were sent to see what the land was like with ten of the twelve spies reporting "*we can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are*". (Numbers 13:31) What was Joshua's, who was one of the spies, assessment of the situation? (Numbers 14:6-9)

11. As Israel's new leader, what was Joshua's first strategy? (Joshua 2:1a)

12. What do you think Joshua expected to find out?

13. What strategy did the spies use to gain this information? (Joshua 2:1b)

14. The king of Jericho was watching and was informed that Israelites had come into the city. He sent a messenger to Rahab and said, "Bring out the men who came to you and entered your house because they have come to spy out the whole land." What did Rahab tell the king's messenger? (Joshua 2:4, 5)

15. What had Rahab done with the spies? (Joshua 2:6)

16. What did she say they knew? (Joshua 2:9-11a)

17. Who did Rahab say God was? (Joshua 2:11)

18. What was her request and what reason did she give for asking? (Joshua 2:12, 13)

19. What do you think Rahab believed would happen to Jericho?

20. How did the spies answer her request? (Joshua 2:14)

21. Rahab seemed to be a strategist herself. What counsel did she give the spies to avoid being captured? (Joshua 2:15, 16)

22. Do you think Rahab, this Gentile woman is part of God's plan? (Joshua 1:11)

23. What might the spies be thinking as she said this? (Deuteronomy 2:24, 25)

24. What did the spies call their agreement with Rahab? (Joshua 2: 17)

25. Who did she make them swear by? (Joshua 2:12)

26. The spies add three addendum's to this oath. What were they? (Joshua 2:17-20)

27. What's her reply to these conditions? (Joshua 2:21)

28. What happened after three days? (Joshua 2:22, 23)

29. Reading verse 24 you can almost hear the excitement in the voices of the spies. How much land did they say the LORD would give them?
 - How many people were melting in fear?

 - Why?

Think about it!

Studying chapter 2, I was amazed as I saw how the faith of one very unlikely woman had such a profound effect on the Israelite spies and ultimately the whole nation of Israel! I saw how God used the faith of one person to have a powerful effect on both the believers and non-believers.

I couldn't help but ask, *"Do I ... do you ... have that kind of faith?"*