

"Exodus: Journey of Fulfillment"

Week 6

Sermon Date 10/22/2017

MY STORY

- 1) What was your takeaway from last week's study?
- 2) From last week's study, what did you do this week to help you walk closer at the side of Christ?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) Upon reviewing your notes from Sunday's teaching, was there anything that caught your attention?

The Goal

This week we are doing a little review and will also look at Joshua's instructions to the people as they prepare to enter the Promised Land. One of the key thoughts we will discuss this week is how people think differently when they are slaves versus when they are in the Promised Land. The slave's thinking is steeped in fear and focused on what they will lose. People living in the Promised Land ask, "Why do I have so much?"

DIGGING DEEPER

We will be doing a quick review of some of the themes we discussed these past five weeks.

- 1) In Week One we read about the Israelites at the Mount of God and how He revealed Himself to them. We discussed the awe of God and how that should have an impact on our lives. Was there something about God that you viewed differently than before after that week's study?
- 2) In Week Two we unpacked *Identity* and how knowing who we are in Christ helps us become free from a slave mentality. During that week we read about Paul in Romans Chapters 7-8 and his struggle with sin. How were you encouraged from Paul's experience?
- 3) During Week 3 we learned about Moses standing in the gap for the Israelites because of their sin. Pastor Craig taught us to pray for those who are far away from God and stand in the gap for them. Who are you standing in the gap for in prayer?
- 4) In Week 4 we talked about how to screw up a really good vision. This was when the spies went into the Promised Land and 10 of the spies delivered a bad report and spread fear throughout the camp when they returned. God then disciplined the people

that were over 20 years old by not allowing them into the Promised Land. What did you learn about trusting God and holding onto His vision?

- 5) Last week we talked about having our priorities correct by keeping the main thing the main thing (walking life at the side of Christ). We also talked about the difference between compliance and obedience out of a place of *love*. What was your takeaway from last week?

TAKING IT HOME

God had brought the Israelites to the edge of the Promised Land and sent spies out into Canaan. They returned and gave a bad report about the land and failed to trust God. God disciplined all the Israelites by having them roam an additional 40 years in the wilderness. Those twenty years old and above would pass away during that time. But all their children and grandchildren would be able to experience the Promised Land. We pick up the story where all the original generation has passed away. Their children and grandchildren, who witnessed God's miracles in Egypt and His provision in the land between, are now preparing to enter the Promised Land. During their 40 years in the desert they have experienced God's provisions and promises. They have learned to trust Him and to live as free people; ready to teach the generation after them to live life freely at the side of God.

- 6) What have you changed in your life (behaviors, faith, actions, legacy) to move from the land between to the Land of Promise that will leave a positive legacy for the future?

Now let's take a look at the command God gives to Joshua, Moses' successor, regarding the Promised Land.

Joshua 1:1-9 (NLT)

After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. ³ I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— ⁴ from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

⁶ "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸ Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. ⁹ This is my command—be

strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”ⁱ

7) After Moses died, what is the command God gives to Joshua?
[Prepare to enter the Promised Land and be strong and courageous.](#)

8) What is God's promise to Joshua?
[“For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.”](#)

Joshua 1:10-18 (NLT)

¹⁰Joshua then commanded the officers of Israel, ¹¹“Go through the camp and tell the people to get their provisions ready. In three days you will cross the Jordan River and take possession of the land the Lord your God is giving you.”

¹²Then Joshua called together the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and the half-tribe of Manasseh. He told them, ¹³“Remember what Moses, the servant of the Lord, commanded you: ‘The Lord your God is giving you a place of rest. He has given you this land.’ ¹⁴Your wives, children, and livestock may remain here in the land Moses assigned to you on the east side of the Jordan River. But your strong warriors, fully armed, must lead the other tribes across the Jordan to help them conquer their territory. Stay with them ¹⁵until the Lord gives them rest, as he has given you rest, and until they, too, possess the land the Lord your God is giving them. Only then may you return and settle here on the east side of the Jordan River in the land that Moses, the servant of the Lord, assigned to you.”

¹⁶They answered Joshua, “We will do whatever you command us, and we will go wherever you send us. ¹⁷We will obey you just as we obeyed Moses. And may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses. ¹⁸Anyone who rebels against your orders and does not obey your words and everything you command will be put to death. So be strong and courageous!”ⁱⁱ

9) When Joshua commands some of the tribes to prepare to enter the Promised Land, what was their response?

[“We will do whatever you command us, and we will go wherever you send us. ¹⁷We will obey you just as we obeyed Moses. And may the Lord your God be with you as he was with Moses. ¹⁸Anyone who rebels against your orders and does not obey your words and everything you command will be put to death. So be strong and courageous!”](#)

10) What is the difference between the response of this group of Israelites and the group that first arrived at this location (referring to the group that sent out the spies originally)?

[The first group responded in fear and the second responded in faith and courage.](#)

One of the significant differences between the two groups at the edge of the Promised Land is in their thinking. One group was driven by fear, while the other had grown through the desert and learned to trust in God’s provision. There is a lesson for us to grasp ahold of here: the first group had the mindset of a slave and feared losing what little they had even

though they had been given all the treasure of Egypt. They were rich in so many ways, but they only focused on the fear of losing what they had.

The second group was confident in God's provision. They possessed all the material possessions of the first generation plus the experience of forty years of God's daily provision of manna and quail. Their response was to trust God.

- 11) Why do you think there was such a difference in the thinking between the two groups?
- 12) What can we learn from the Israelites and their different mindsets?
- 13) In the land between, the first group asked, "Why don't I have more?" The second group about to enter the Promised Land asked, "What do I do with all that I have?" How can we respond the same way?
- 14) Who do you want to be: the first group who was stuck in fear? Or the second group who trusted and obeyed? Why?

CHAIR TIME TOOL

Read Joshua Chapters 1-4 and answer the following questions.

- 15) How did the spies differ from the first set of spies sent into the land of Canaan?
- 16) Much like the Red Sea, what did God do again with the Jordan River?
- 17) What did the priests have to do with the ark concerning the river?
- 18) Think about the promises of God to the Israelites and how they moved from a place of fear to trusting. How can you do this in your own life at the side of Christ?

ⁱ Tyndale House Publishers, *Holy Bible: New Living Translation* (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2013)

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