

## Joshua Generation

Moses was an exceptional leader. By the power of God and through Moses' hands and staff mighty miracles were performed. Apart from Jesus, Moses was the greatest miracle worker in the Bible. Under his leadership, God supernaturally provided the basic needs of his people for forty years. Most of us know about the manna and the quail. **Deuteronomy 29:5**, "And I have led you forty years in the wilderness. Your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandals have not worn out on your feet."

Moses' leadership style matched the need of the nation during those forty years. Moses led diplomatically. He patiently sat and judged the people as they grumbled through the long years in the desert. By the time the Israelites reached Canaan, fierce enemies awaited them. A much more confrontational leader, a military man skilled in war was needed for this moment.

### Joshua 1:1-9

#### Moses is dead!

- As much as we desire for things to never change, they always do!
- People long for the "good old days." It is a waste of time and energy.
- Moses is dead!
- **Isaiah 43:18-19**, "Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold, **I will do a new thing**, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

#### What God promises is obtained through faith and obedience.

- **Romans 10:17**, "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."
- Faith begins when the will of God is known.
- Steps of faith
  - Word of the Lord
  - Heard, received and believed by hearer
  - Step out— "every place where the sole of your foot will tread."
  - The doing part is what separates the posers from real women and men of faith!
- **James 1:22**, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves."

#### Be strong and of good courage

- If God tells us to be strong and to have courage, then there will be many opportunities in life to be weak and afraid.
- Weakness and fear are not from God and should be resisted, never embraced!
- If God says, "Be strong and have courage," then he is working behind the scenes to provide supernaturally.
- **Hebrews 11:1**, "Now faith is the substance (realization) of things hoped for, the evidence (confidence) of things not seen."

#### Joshua Generation

- Moses led a group of former slaves through a season of severe wilderness testing.
- Joshua led the next generation through a season of conquest and victory, taking possession of the land God had promised to them forty years earlier.
- Moses was a great miracle worker, as was Joshua. The walls of Jericho fell supernaturally. During another battle, the sun actually stood still allowing Israel time to gain total victory.
- This new season required a new leader.

## **A different spirit**

- Story tell **Numbers 13**
- **Numbers 14:1-10**
- **Numbers 14:20-24**
- Everyone received what he or she believed and confessed! Those who believed they would die in the wilderness did. Joshua and Caleb possessed the Promised Land of Canaan.
- **Joshua 14:6-14**

## **Conclusion**

For thirty years Michelle and I have led this congregation. Hopefully, it was the leadership style needed for the season. It has been great season of growth and victory. But, it is a new day and a new season. New leaders are needed. A different leadership style will bring a new season of victory and growth. Chad and Kortney are the God chosen leaders for this time and for this place. It is another Joshua Generation.

In this story Michelle and I are Caleb. It is time for us to take a new mountain that God promised us. He put in our heart One Church with Ten locations. We are about a third of the way there. We must now go and plant the church in St. Joseph, and we will do so. We will establish another strong church location and more to come during this decade of growth and multiplication.

It has been the greatest pleasure serving you as your pastors. It will be our delight to continue serving you in our new capacity. Please help Chad and Kortney keep this church strong and healthy. I believe they will lead you in a great new season of growth and victory.