



## Week 5 - Worship Wins The Victory

### Victorious Worship at Jericho

As Joshua prepared to lead the Israelites against Jericho, it was a daunting challenge! The city had already been standing for several thousand years and boasted strong walls, gates, and a defensible position, especially against a nomadic group of pastoralists. The strategy given to take the city was unexpected...

#### 1 - FEAR - False Evidence Appearing Real?

Have you felt fear when watching a suspenseful movie? You objectively know that you're not in danger, but your brain processes the information and your body responds with "fear" based on an imagined situation! How does this work in real life - does our enemy use "imagined fear" to subvert our faith?

#### 2 - Watch the Video for Week 5 with Pastor Scott

#### 3 - Scripture reading -

After the death of Moses, Joshua takes command of the Israelites as they enter the Land God promised to Abraham and now was giving to his descendants. Read about this transition of leadership:

**Read Joshua 1:1-9** - For 40 years, Joshua has been mentored by Moses, and now steps into the role of leading the people into the Land -

- What promises does God make?
- What does God want Joshua to remember (repeated 3 x!)?
- What does God say will be the "key" to Joshua's success in verse 8?
- What promise in verse 9 is a source of strength for Joshua?
- How does this passage speak to us today in times of uncertainty?

**Read Joshua 5:13-15 & 6:1-7** - Joshua receives the strategy from the Lord

- Does this seem like an odd battle plan? What would you have thought if you heard this plan from Joshua?

**Read Joshua 6:15-20** - This is the first battle for this generation in the Promised Land, with many more to come.

- Why might God want this battle to follow the pattern He reveals?

**Adonai Tsevaot / The Lord of Hosts** - In 5:13-14, Joshua sees "a man holding a drawn sword" who identifies Himself as "the commander of the Lord's army". He tells Joshua to remove his sandals for the place is holy.

- In what other scene is someone told to remove sandals (see **Exodus 3:5**)
- Who is this Commander of the Lord's Armies (see **Revelation 19:11-16!**)

**Pray for each other - how can we live out the command to Joshua and let worship give us to courage over fear and worry?**



#### A Joshua Pattern of Worship:

The pattern we read about in this story can guide our practice as well when faced with fear or uncertainty

Consider how this can keep our focus on God's presence with us:

*"Moses is dead" - we don't live in the past, God is calling us to new things in faith...*

*"Be strong and courageous" - Joshua was strengthened by God's presence...*

*"Do not let my Word depart from your mouth" - We combat fear by mediating on God's Word...*

*Adonai Tsevaot is with us! - The presence of Jesus goes before us every day...*

