



TODAY'S MESSAGE:

Jesus in the Old Testament: Be Strong & Courageous

Jim Keena | Guest Speaker | July 28, 2024



The book of Joshua opens with Joshua arriving at a pivotal moment in his life. A point in time when he could choose to be "strong and courageous" or "afraid and discouraged." His decision would determine the trajectory and outcome of his life and nation. As we study Joshua 1:1-9 our goal is to answer this question:

"How did God strengthen & encourage Joshua?"

Joshua 1:1-2 (NIV)

After the death of Moses, the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua, son of Nun, Moses' aide: "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites."

1. Believing God's Promises

Joshua 1:3-6 (NIV)

*"I **will** give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. Your territory **will** extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Mediterranean Sea in the west. No one **will** be able to stand against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I **will** be with you; I **will** never leave you nor forsake you. Be strong and courageous because you **will** lead these people to inherit the land, I swore to their ancestors to give them."*

2. Obeying God's Commandments

Joshua 1:7-8 (NIV)

"Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful."

3. Resting In His Presence

Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go."

Hebrews 1:1-2 (NIV)

In the past, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son.

TOGETHER, WE LEAD PEOPLE IN BECOMING ALL-IN FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

Reflection Questions:

- 1) In Joshua 1:1-9, God gives Joshua a great command. After reading verses 1-2, discuss the emotions and thoughts that Joshua might have experienced at that moment.
- 2) Joshua faced a pivotal moment in his life where he could understandably be "afraid and discouraged" (Joshua 1:9). Describe a pivotal moment when you experienced something similar.
- 3) After reading Joshua 1:3-9, discuss how God strengthened and encouraged Joshua. Also, reflect on how God strengthens and encourages you today.
- 4) Journey Church's mission statement is: "Together, we're leading people to become all in followers of Jesus." Would you describe yourself as an "all in follower of Jesus"?