



Finding the Courage to Move Forward

René Schlaepfer • January 16 & 17, 2010 • Week 4

How can I face an uncertain future with confidence?

In Joshua 1, Joshua faces a future full of uncertainty.

God gives him (and us) three reasons to be strong and courageous...

"Moses my servant is dead. Get ready! Cross the Jordan River! Lead these people into the land which I am ready to hand over to them." Joshua 1:2 (NET)

1. Live God's _____

"Be strong and brave! You must lead these people in the conquest of this land that I solemnly promised their ancestors I would hand over to them." Joshua 1:6

"Our first responsibility is not to build the Church or even to get souls saved — it is to represent Christ and to bring His message to the world. As God beholds us in Christ, so the world must behold Christ in us." — Cornelius Stam (1909–2003)

2. Learn God's _____

"Make sure you are very strong and brave! Carefully obey all the law my servant Moses charged you to keep! Do not swerve from it to the right or to the left, so that you may be successful, so that you may be successful in all you do. This law scroll must not leave your lips! You must memorize it day and night so you can carefully obey all that is written in it. Then you will prosper and be successful." Joshua 1:7–8

3. Love God's _____

"I repeat, be strong and brave! Don't be afraid and don't panic, for I, the LORD your God, am with you in all you do." Joshua 1:9

Joshua told the people, "...consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will perform miraculous deeds among you." Joshua 3:5

The degree to which I believe in God's:

_____/_____
and _____ for me determines my
_____ as I face the future!

Daily Meditations

Monday

Please read Joshua 1:1–9. Look back over the notes from last weekend. Which of these five points particularly encouraged you? Why?

How will you apply this to your life this week?

Thank God that He is with you. Thank Him for the plans He has for your life. Ask Him for the patience and wisdom to follow His guidance.

Tuesday

Please read Joshua 1:3–9 & Matthew 28:19–20. According to this passage, what is one of God's purposes for your life?

What circumstances make it difficult for you to focus on that?

How does refocusing on your purpose help you to be strong and courageous?

What will do this week to keep your focus on God's purpose for your life?

Thank God today for the purpose He gives you. Ask Him for strength of mind and heart to stay focused on Him and His purpose.

Wednesday

Please read Joshua 1:7, Matthew 7:24 & Mark 12:28–31. How does this passage in Mark summarize God's principles for His children?

How does remembering God's principles help you to remember your purpose?

Think of a difficult situation you are facing right now. How will you live by God's principles today in that situation today?

Thank God today for giving you the Bible and a way to know His principles. Ask Him to help you keep His principles at the front of your mind today and to live your life based on them.

Thursday

Please read Joshua 1:3–5, Jeremiah 29:11, Romans 8:28, 37 & Ephesians 2:10.

According to these verses, what are God's plans for you?

How does knowing God not only has a plan, but also promised to bring those plans about, help you to be strong and courageous?

What about your future worries you right now?

How can you apply them to the parts of your future that worry you?

Thank God today that He has good plans for you personally! Thank for the power to bring those good plans about. Ask Him for the faith to believe Him and to live purposefully.

Friday

Please read Joshua 1:5, 9 & Matthew 28:20b. What is God's promise to you in these verses?

It's not a complicated promise but it's an essential for facing the future with hope and confidence. How does this promise encourage you today?

How does God's continual presence give you hope for the future?

Thank God today for His presences with you. Ask Him to make you continually aware of that presence today and to relax knowing that He has your future under His care and control.

Saturday

Please read Joshua 24. How do you see God's fulfillment of his promise to Joshua in this passage? What encourages you most in Joshua's final recounting of his walk with God?

Please pray for this weekend's services. Please pray that World Outreach Week would be both an encouragement to our church and to those who have travelled from around the world to share with us. Also pray for the new Venue service that will be starting in 3 weeks!



“Have I not commanded you?
Be strong and courageous.
Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged,
for the LORD your God will be with you
wherever you go.” *Joshua 1:9 (NIV)*