

# Joshua

For Further Study Guide  
Summer 2025

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## **Foreword:**

**Please note:** this guide is presented for further study on the book of Joshua. Certainly this is not all that there is to diving deeper into this amazing book. Keep going. Ask more questions. Find answers. The highest good comes from reading Scripture and meeting God within its pages. Imagine yourself within the story and contemplate what it would be like to experience this conquest of the Promised Land! Always be asking yourself *“What does this teach me about God and What does this mean for me today in my life?”* Also, if a question confuses you it is expected that you ask someone, or many “someones” until you find an answer!!! “I don’t know” is an opportunity to learn something new, not a reason to feel clueless or inadequate. Let’s learn together!!!!

**Bibliographic Note:** the questions and considerations presented in this guide rely **heavily** on 2 Sources. First, is **The Serendipity Bible** that has discussion questions for every passage of Scripture and is great for use in small group and personal study. Second, is the **Precept Upon Precept Study on Joshua**, published by Precept Ministries International. This is an *Inductive* and *In-Depth* study on the book of Joshua.

## **Week One –**

Read Exodus 17:8-13; 24:13; 33:11; Numbers 13; 14:1-38;  
Deuteronomy 31; 32:44-47; 34

1. Read the above passages and list the experiences and characteristics of Joshua that qualify him to be the next leader of Israel.
2. “Joshua’s” (means *-The **Lord** is Salvation*) name is changed in Numbers 13:16 from “Hoshea” (means – ***He** has saved*). A name change is very significant. How does this name change more specifically name the Lord as the source of salvation?
3. What is the significance of this name change in light of Joshua’s role?
4. Only Joshua and Caleb are left alive after the 40 years of wandering in the desert. Why only them? See their public statement in Numbers 14:6-9. Note why these two think that Israel’s success is assured.
5. Read Deut. 31:1-8. Moses is not going to lead the people, so he transitions to Joshua. Moses tells both the people and Joshua to be Strong and Courageous. What is the significance of this combination of commands?
6. Deut. 31:8 Why is there a tendency toward fear and discouragement?
7. Would you be afraid or discouraged in this instance? Why or Why not?
8. Do you have a spiritual mentor like Joshua had? What have you learned from your mentor? Would what you have learned help you to succeed them?
9. Why is the Law read every 7 years to the people?
10. How have you set about reading and listening to God’s Word?
11. In what ways might Joshua feel UN-qualified to lead the people of Israel? Read Deut. 34:10-12 for part of that answer!
12. Consider devoting some time in silent meditation and prayer over these passages and listen for what the Spirit speaks to you. Write down those thoughts and impressions, for further review.

**Week Two –**  
**Read Joshua 1**

1. What mentor/coach/teacher relationship has most influenced you? In what ways?
2. What instructions were constantly repeated by your parents when it came time for you to be on your own?
3. Moses has died and the Lord is speaking to Joshua. What might he be thinking and feeling? Now that the reality is hitting, Joshua.
4. What promises are given to him? Why is it important to remember all that God has done?
5. Which commands accompany the promises? Which would seem the most terrifying to you?
6. How does God define success based on verses 7&8? How is the Biblical definition radically different from that of the “Prosperity Gospel”?
7. How does Joshua’s command to the officers reflect obedience and faith on the part of Joshua?
8. How must the reply by the people in verses 16-18 make Joshua feel? What do we do when we are trying to lead but no one is following? What message might a leader be getting, if they have no followers?
9. Which command in verses 5-9 would be the toughest for you to obey?
10. Which promise would be most helpful?
11. What challenge is before you now? How would the Bible define success in that challenge?
12. What hinders you most often in having deep faith? Why is that hindrance still there? In addition to God, who can help you with this?

### **Week Three --**

#### Read Joshua 2

1. Read Numbers 13 and then compare and contrast these verses to the entry into the Promised Land. How is this spying of the land different?
2. Why do you think that Rahab felt safe in harboring the two spies? What does that reflect about who she fears or trusts?
3. Other than safety and escape, what does Rahab provide? Why does Jericho feel the way they do about the Israelites (see vv. 9-11)?
4. Why does Rahab request what she does of the spies? Whom is she looking out for? Does her request reflect honor for God?
5. See Matthew 1:5 and Hebrews 11:31 Note that Rahab is listed in the lineage of Jesus AND is a part of the "Great Cloud of Witnesses!"
6. How much can **faith** impact a person's life?
7. Are you a person of faith being transformed by the Lord? In what ways? Share a personal example of taking steps of faith with Jesus.
8. Read James 2:25-26 for further reference to Rahab.
9. Do Rahab's actions build a strong enough case for such a high place in Scripture? Why or why not?
10. Rahab's actions spare her family. What actions can we take with our family to help them to salvation?
11. Consider how you might respond to difficult situations, rather than react in haste. What does preparations for the unknown look like for a follower of Christ?
12. I am most likely to fear God because...

**Week Four –**  
**Read Joshua 3**

1. Have you ever experienced a severe flood or a river at flood stage? What emotions did that experience bring out in you?
2. Go to YouTube and search “Jordan River at flood stage” to get an idea of what the Israelites were facing.
3. While the people were waiting to cross the Jordan, what do you think they were doing? Feeling? Praying?
4. What does the Ark signify (see vv. 3-5, 11; Exod.25:12-22; Num. 4:5; 10:35-36; Deut. 10:8, 31:26)
5. What does the call to “consecrate yourselves” imply? Look up the meaning of consecrate and apply it to this scene.
6. How are we to consecrate ourselves today and in our lives? What does that look like for Crosspoint?
7. What was the reason that God began Joshua’s career with a miracle so similar to Moses (see vv. 7-8)
8. What connection/relationship is there between “word” and the “miracle” at the Jordan River in vv. 9-13?
9. When you “*have never been this way before*” (v.4), how do you follow God? Where do your eyes need to be looking?
10. Put yourself on the bank of the Jordan and ask yourself what the people were thinking as the priests headed into the water. What is going through their minds? Have you ever waited to witness a miracle in your life? How did/does that impact personal faith?
11. The literal translation of verse 16 for what the water did is that it “stacked up”!! Is it appropriate to expect miracles in our life? If so, why don’t we/you expect them?
12. Do you have a place from your past that is special or holds cherished memories? How do you retain memory of that place?
13. One last wonder out loud question...why did God have the People cross at flood stage? Hint: this has to be very much on purpose by God.

## **Week Five –**

### **Read Joshua 4**

1. What impact did this event have on the people at the time? What impact does this have on your faith? What's wrong with thinking that this is just a fictional story?
2. What is at stake, if the Bible is just a collection of fictional stories?
3. Why set up a monument of 12 stones? Hint: there is more than one reason to remember what God has done.
4. What memorial of God working in your life is a big stone pile? Try and share that story with someone today or tomorrow.
5. Why did God “exalt” Joshua in v.14 in the sight of all Israel? The author makes sure to make the reverence equal to that of Moses. Why make this point?
6. What evidence do others have that “the Lord is powerful” in your life?
7. What actions by God in your life have caused you to “always fear the Lord?” (What problems result from not fearing the Lord?)
8. How much of your spiritual journey do your close family and friends know? Why is sharing your spiritual journey important? What is a good enough reason to NOT share your faith with others?
9. Spend some time writing some notes on what God has done in your life and how you came to put your faith and trust in Him. Limit yourself to one page. Then, pray over it and ask God to bring to mind someone with whom to share God's working in your life!
10. We have family we inherit and family we choose... How are you handing down your faith in Christ to your family? Be intentional about this!!!

## **Week Six –**

Read Joshua 5:1-12

1. out of over 1 million Israelites that leave Egypt, only 2 men (Joshua and Caleb) enter the Promised Land! Not even Moses made it out of the desert. See Exodus 12:37 that says 600,000 men left, plus dependents!! That is a lot of wandering the desert to wait for an entire generation to die. Is this too steep a penalty for lack of faith/disobedience? If not, why not? Read Numbers 14:36-38 to witness the beginning of the process of generational loss.
2. What are the implications/consequences if God DOES take our disobedience so seriously? Might it require Christ to come and die on our behalf?
3. Whom did Joshua circumcise based on v.7?
4. Many scholars think that none were being circumcised as a sign of being cut off from the covenant because of the Golden Calf. How does this support the idea that God takes our sin very seriously?
5. How has your disobedience kept you from enjoying the promises of God?
6. The “rolling away the reproach of Egypt” in v.9 probably means that God has delivered the people to the Promised Land, despite Egypt’s doubt that God could do it. In what ways has God shown follow through on His promises to you?
7. How have you dealt with your own skepticism/doubt about God? Have you had doubters who watch you in your faith? How is God proving Himself through you as they watch?
8. This event of circumcision represents a giant turn in the history of God at work in the life of Israel. How does the first meal not made of manna also signify this turn?
9. Manna was a symbol of God’s daily provision for the nation. Did God stop providing daily after the manna stopped? In what ways does God provide for you/us daily?



## **Week Seven –**

Read Joshua 5:13-6:27

1. How intimidated must Joshua have been to see a man with a drawn sword!?
2. Yet, Joshua recognizes this is a heavenly being by the answer to his question. How important is it to recognize when God is at work?
3. What are ways to practice recognizing when God is at work?
4. What is the message from the commander of the army of the Lord? Why is it so important?
5. God has delivered Jericho into the hands of Israel, but what a strange way to win a battle, right? How do we respond when we hear God but he doesn't make sense?
6. How did Joshua respond to such a strange battle plan? How did the people respond?
7. How might the residents of Jericho felt about all the marching?
8. What was the purpose of the trumpet blast and the people's shout? More than just a cue, perhaps a test of obedience, or maybe a unified way for the people to express their faith?
9. Might God have several external expressions of faith for our sake and a way to deepen our faith?
10. Review The Bible Project video on Joshua that we watched by searching for it on YouTube. Why did God call for the total destruction of Jericho?
11. When did you realize what it means to be on the Lord's side and take your marching orders from Him? What are some warning signs that you are following the wrong authority/orders?
12. By extension, what area of your life are you still protecting or hiding behind? How could God give you victory over those "walls" if you would follow His ways?
13. Whom can you enlist to join you!?

## **Week Eight –**

### **Read Joshua 7**

1. Check out the contrast between the last verse of chapter 6 and the first in chapter 7! What a turn in the text! What story of life/faith turning on a dime do you have?
2. Just when everything was going great, Achan completely derails the campaign. Why is it that you/we think that we can hide things from God? When has that ever worked?
3. One man is disobedient and yet the whole nation suffers. Why was God angry at the entire nation? (see 6:18-19)
4. The expected outcome does not happen. How would you describe Joshua's reaction to the stunning defeat?
5. Read vv.10-11. How does God view Joshua's response?
6. What is God's remedy for the situation? Getting rid of sin is the only response we can ever have and that is only done through trusting Christ! Why does it take our suffering to bring us to this truth?
7. What exactly was Achan's sin? Why did he do it, knowing God's command? Sounds familiar to Genesis 3 doesn't it?
8. What can happen in our lives when we try to hide sin?
9. Has the Lord ever had to get tough with you to get you back on track? What if the curses in Genesis 3 are actually for our benefit? What if God did that because He loves us? Ever noticed how quickly suffering gets our attention?
10. How would you have dealt with Achan? I would want to say "Ok, don't do that again!" How might rescuing our selves and others from the consequences of poor choices actually be unloving?
11. Our actions never happen in a vacuum. What if you/we start to think in terms of how your/our choices might affect others?
12. Let's end this week with a tough question... Was it fair for God to punish ALL Israel because just one person sinned? Why/why not?

**Week Nine –**  
**Read Joshua 8**

1. What is it about a come-from-behind victory that we love?
2. The first attack of Ai was a defeat. What does the Lord say to encourage Joshua?
3. How does this attack differ from the first?
4. Briefly describe the second attack plan in vv.3-8. How does this plan make use of the first defeat?
5. Put yourself in the scene as a soldier listening to Joshua describe the plan. How are you feeling about the whole situation? When you are defeated what does that do to your confidence?
6. How can you/we have confidence in the face of a defeat?
7. In this battle we see Joshua taking direction from the Lord and then he adds to the plan himself. How might this “cooperating” with the Lord and His plan help us as we attempt to live this life?
8. Is there some area that you hear God saying, “Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged?” Through God’s repeated message to Joshua and the people before the conquest of the Land makes sense! Right?
9. Have you ever had your own self-confidence lead you into trouble? What should you do based on this chapter?
10. How sure are you that you know what God calls success? How can you be sure of God’
11. Some say, “The only failure is the failure to learn.” What did Joshua learn from failure? What might you/we learn from failure?
12. What was the FIRST thing Joshua did after the Ai victory? What can you/we take from his example?
13. What might it mean for you to build an altar to the Lord? What would you offer?

## **Week Ten –**

### **Read Joshua 9**

1. How did the kings west of the Jordan react to the news of Israel's victories? How is that different from that of Gibeon?
2. How would you respond to this news if you were king?
3. What was the trick used by the people of Gibeon?
4. Why do you think that it worked? What is the significance of the Israelites "*sampling but not inquiring*"?
5. What did the Israelites do when they discovered that they had been tricked (see vv. 16-18)?
6. What impact did that have on the ones responsible for the unpopular treaty?
7. What is your take on Joshua cursing the people of Gibeon? Was it fair to them? What would you have done? How important is keeping your word, once you have given it?
8. Have you ever made an important decision without "inquiring of the Lord"? What was the result?
9. What would your response have been to the curse? Are you someone who readily accepts authority when it is placed over you, or do you rebel against it?
10. How does the source of authority make a difference in how you/we might respond to it?
11. Once again let's think about how much of our walk with Christ is up to us and how much is turned over to Christ to do the leading. What is our part and what is God's?
12. Why would it be advisable to always be asking this question?
13. If you/we do make an incorrect or poor choice, how might God reveal that error?

## **Week Eleven**

### **Read Joshua 10**

1. This chapter divides into 2 sections: the Amorite campaign, and the Southern cities campaign. Did it seem like the book speeds up in its pace? There is a lot going on in just one chapter. What does sweeping victory indicate?
2. Imagine you are a reporter of this “Long Day of Joshua”. What would your headline be regarding the Amorites?
3. Why do they attack the Gibeonites? Is it right for Joshua to get involved?
4. When has a rash decision led you to consequences you never saw coming?
5. Read v.8. Does this language from God sound familiar from earlier in Joshua? How is this kind of language from God significant?
6. Does God still act on our behalf like He did in this passage? What evidence confirms your answer?
7. If you find yourself in a bad spot, whom might you call on,?
8. What are you working on in your life that you wish that God would give you more time to accomplish? Under what circumstances might God be willing to help?
9. Why do the kings hide in the cave, when they should be doing battle along with their troops? Hint: see v.11!!
10. Why does the author note that more are killed by the hail than by swords?
11. When the Southern cities are conquered the phrase “Then Joshua and all Israel with him..” is a part of a pattern. What is the significance of this phrase?
12. Where in your life is it evident that the Lord is fighting for you? Do you have anyone alongside you?
13. What is the importance of not being alone as we do battle?

## **Week Twelve –**

### **Read Joshua 11**

1. How did the northern kings respond when they heard about the Israelite victories in the south? (see vv.1-5)
2. Why might Joshua have been afraid of this army even after his many victories?
3. How does the Lord speak to that fear? (see v.6)
4. Why does the Lord give instructions about destroying even the horses and chariots? (see Psalm 33:13-22)
5. What was the result of Joshua's sudden attack?
6. Why do you think that Hazor got special attention? (see vv. 10, 13)
7. What reason does the author give for the total destruction of these cities in vv. 12-15?
8. Why might the command of Moses be mentioned here? How might mentioning Moses strengthen the command?
9. In vv.16-20 we read of the conquest of the north. What does this description tell us about the geography of the Land?
10. Why does this campaign take a long time to complete? What was left after it was finished?
11. According to this chapter, what was the reason for such successful campaigns in the conquest of the Promised Land? This success happens despite the overwhelming odds and greater numbers of soldiers by each enemy city.
12. Do you ever feel like there are enemies all around you ready to attack...or perhaps you **are** being attacked!?
13. How about the fact that it can seem like the battles we face take a long time to conclude! Perhaps it feels like that because it **IS** taking a long time!! What can we do when our battle drags on?
14. Should we expect success when we are obedient to God?
15. Where do we turn when we suffer defeat even though we are being obedient? Think of the loss at Ai!

## **Week Thirteen –**

Read 14:6-15

1. Where and how do you see yourself spending your final years like Caleb?
2. Who was Caleb and what was his claim to fame?
3. Actions speak loudly of character. What do Caleb's actions show about the kind of man that he is? (see vv.6-9)
4. How was he different from the men that Moses sent up to explore the land?
5. How much has Caleb changed since that day early in his life?
6. What area did Caleb want for himself? Why?
7. What does his request reveal about his confidence in the Lord?
8. What about you and what you ask of God? What does it reveal about your confidence in God?
9. Do you think that Caleb sat around on the beach or simply put his feet up after gaining his inheritance? Why, or why not?
10. Read the end of v.12 and it would seem that he has no room for the easy life, but rather must drive out giants from the land of his inheritance! What does this mean for his retirement?
11. What does reading a story like this do for your faith? How does it challenge you?
12. Does the request for the territory seem audacious? He seems to be claiming what God has promised. What are your thoughts on this? Is there a time when claiming what God has promised might be wrong?

## **Week Fourteen –**

### **Read Joshua 23**

1. What a journey that Joshua's 110 years on earth have given him to see God working in amazing ways!
2. How might Joshua be feeling and thinking as he looks back on his life?
3. Looking back on your life, how and where have you witnessed God at work? Write those things down!
4. What has been the result for you when you obey God vs. when you disobey?
5. The account of the battles seems like all of the war has been done, but v.5 indicates that all of the work was not complete. He reminds them that the Lord will drive them out. We all need reminders like this. Why is that?
6. Why is it critical that Joshua bring the group listed in v.2 to him for his farewell?
7. How did Joshua feel about the future of Israel?
8. In vv.6-8 Joshua recounts the advice given in chapter one. What does it mean "to obey all that is written in the Book of Moses"?
9. In vv.9-11 what are the results of obedience to the Lord?
10. Verses 12-13 preview what will happen if the people are not faithful and obey the Lord. In fact, this is a foreshadow of what will actually happen to them. They are unfaithful and yet God is faithful! How does this fact encourage your faith?
11. Joshua's words in vv.14-16 are just incredible. Read those verses several times and think about God speaking to you with the same promises and truth.
12. Do you understand God better? Does this passage help or hinder your faith?



## **Week 15**

### **Read Joshua 24**

1. Again all of the Tribes' leaders are assembled to hear the words of Joshua. Why does he want them to hear what he has to say?
2. As Joshua recounts the history of Israel in vv.2-13, how was God involved in the life of Abraham? How about in the escape from Egypt? In the battle against people east of the Jordan? In the conquest of the Promised Land?
3. Where would Israel be without God's help? Where would you be?
4. As Joshua sums it all up in vv.14-15, what is his plan for his household?
5. Have you heard this verse before? You might have read it on a plaque or picture in a house you visited.
6. What is the meaning of that sentence? In light of all that has happened in Joshua's life, how much more meaning and impact does it now have?
7. Based on v.16 and following, do you get the idea that the people will continue to follow?
8. Would you be shocked to know that in only a couple of hundred years Israel will break their word (when we enter the book of Judges)?
9. Clearly the people do not fully understand what it takes to serve the Lord. See v.23. They are worshiping false gods. What false gods are you worshiping?
10. The Israelites want to serve both God and false gods/idols. This tends to be common with humans. In 2025, what idols do you/we often serve?
11. Notice the impact that a godly leader can have on a people as we read v.31.
12. What leaders do you find yourself looking to in your life? Are they obedient to the Lord? What care do you take to put yourself under godly leadership?
13. Write out a list of truths that you have discovered throughout this study of Joshua. Post those truths where you can see them!