

Small Group Guide: The Three Attributes of Joshua

****A Father's Day Study on Faith, Obedience, and Trusting God's Truth****

Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by asking God to open your hearts to His Word and help you apply these timeless principles to your lives today.

Introduction

This Father's Day message focuses on three essential attributes found in the life of Joshua that are relevant for all believers, especially fathers and spiritual leaders: Faith, Obedience, and Trusting in God's Truth. These characteristics enabled Joshua to lead God's people into the Promised Land and remain faithful through tremendous challenges.

Key Takeaways

1. ****Faith**** - Joshua demonstrated unwavering faith in God's promises, even when circumstances seemed impossible.
2. ****Obedience**** - Joshua's obedience wasn't selective or conditional; he followed God's commands completely.

3. ****Trusting God's Truth**** - Joshua anchored his life and leadership on the unchanging truth of God's Word.

Discussion Questions

Opening Questions

1. What comes to mind when you think of Joshua as a biblical leader? What events or characteristics stand out to you?
2. Why do you think these three attributes (faith, obedience, and trusting God's truth) are particularly important for fathers and spiritual leaders?

Faith

3. Read Joshua 1:1-9. What specific promises did God make to Joshua? How did Joshua's faith need to be activated in response to these promises?
4. Can you share a time when you had to exercise faith in God despite difficult or uncertain circumstances? What was the outcome?
5. What are some "Promised Land" situations in your life right now that require you to step out in faith?

Obedience

6. Joshua's obedience was tested in unusual ways (marching around Jericho, crossing the Jordan, etc.). Why is obedience sometimes harder when God's instructions don't make logical sense?

7. Read Joshua 1:7-8. What connection does God make between obedience to His Word and success/prosperity?

8. In what areas of your life is God calling you to greater obedience? What obstacles or hesitations are holding you back?

Trusting God's Truth

9. How did Joshua demonstrate trust in God's truth throughout his leadership? (Consider his final address to Israel in Joshua 23-24)

10. In our current culture, what are some competing "truths" that challenge our trust in God's Word?

11. How can we, like Joshua, anchor ourselves more firmly in God's truth on a daily basis?

Application for Fathers and Leaders

12. How do these three attributes specifically apply to fatherhood or spiritual leadership in your context?

13. What legacy do you want to leave for the next generation regarding faith, obedience, and trust in God?

Practical Applications

This Week's Challenge

Choose one of the following to implement this week:

****Faith:****

- Identify one area where God is calling you to trust Him more fully. Write down the specific promise from Scripture that applies to your situation and pray over it daily.

****Obedience:****

- Ask God to reveal one area where you've been hesitant to obey Him completely. Take one concrete step of obedience this week, regardless of how it makes sense to you.

****Trusting God's Truth:****

- Commit to reading and meditating on Joshua 1:8-9 each morning this week. Memorize these verses and let them guide your decisions.

Group Accountability

- Share with one other person in the group which challenge you're committing to this week.
- Exchange contact information and check in with each other mid-week for encouragement.

Family Application (especially for fathers)

- Have a conversation with your children or family about one way you've seen God prove faithful in your life.
- Choose one Bible verse to memorize together as a family this month.
- Pray with your family, asking God to help each person grow in faith, obedience, and trust in His Word.

Closing Reflection

Read together Joshua 24:15:

"But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

****Reflection Question:**** What would it look like for you to make this same declaration in your life today?

Closing Prayer

Pray together, asking God to:

- Increase your faith to believe His promises
- Give you courage to obey even when it's difficult
- Root you deeply in the truth of His Word
- Make you faithful fathers, mothers, and spiritual leaders
- Help you leave a legacy of faithfulness for the next generation

Additional Resources for Further Study

- Read the entire book of Joshua (24 chapters)
- Study other "faith heroes" in Hebrews 11
- Explore other passages on obedience: 1 Samuel 15:22, John 14:15, James 1:22-25
- Memorize key verses: Joshua 1:8-9, Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Timothy 3:16-17