



PASTOR RANDY AND SANDY FAREWELL SERVICE

October 27, 2019

Pastor Randy Remington

BIBLICAL TEXT(S)

*"More than anything,
we're a church that
covets God's Presence.
We want to be a church
known for that."*

–Pastor Randy

MAIN TEXT(S):

"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. 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.

"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. 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." (Joshua 1:1-10)

SUMMARY

In Joshua chapter 1, a big transition is taking place. For years, Moses has led the Israelite people. Now Moses has died. Joshua has been assisting Moses for years, and now he will take up the mantle of leadership. The Israelites are entering a new season. They have been wandering in the wilderness for over 40 years. Now they are going to enter the land that God has promised.

In the midst of this transition, God speaks to Joshua. He promises that he will be with Joshua in the same way he was with Moses. He asks Joshua to study the law that he has given and to obey God, just as Moses did. God's presence will not change. He will not leave or forsake Joshua or the people. God tells Joshua to be strong and courageous. There's nothing that can stand against him or the people if God is with them. That same promise holds true for us today. No matter what may come against us, we can be strong and courageous because God is with us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*These questions
are designed
to help you lead
your group through
a progression of
engagement with
the Bible passage
and the speaker's
message, helping
them understand
and apply the
teaching.*

LEAN IN

These are icebreaker/warm up questions, mostly just to get the group talking and start the flow of conversation. Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. What is the last adventure you went on? How did you prepare?
2. Have you ever taken over a job from someone else? How did that go?
3. What was your high/low for this past week (or since group last met)? What was the best thing that happened and the worst thing that happened?
4. What comes to your mind/what do you feel when you hear the word "change"?

LOOK DOWN

These are questions on the passage and observations about what's been read. Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. What promises does God make to Joshua in chapter 1:1-9?
2. What does God tell Joshua to do in this passage?
3. What phrase is repeated three times in this passage? Why do you think this phrase is repeated so many times?

4. What factors might make Joshua nervous about his calling from God? (if it's helpful, think about whose footsteps he's following in, what kind of challenges he anticipates, the history of the Israelites journey, etc.)
5. What do you know about Joshua from other biblical passages? How has God prepared him for this task? How has God been faithful to him in the past?

LOOK OUT

These questions help connect the world of the Bible to today.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. How have you seen God be faithful to what he's promised in the past? These can be examples from the Bible, from history, or things you witnessed personally.
2. What are God's promises to us today? How are they similar to what God promised Joshua? How are they different?
3. Who do you know (or know of) that's a great example of living out God's command to Joshua 1:7-8 (to follow God's law and not turn to the right or to the left)?
4. How have you seen people be strong and courageous? This could either be people who you know or people from history/the Bible.
5. What kinds of things make people nervous today? How can God's words to Joshua to be strong and courage encourage people in today's world?

LOOK IN

These are questions that help you consider personal application.

Spend about 15-20 minutes on three questions max

1. How has God been faithful to you in your life? How has he walked you through past difficult times or transitions? How does this impact your relationship with God today?
2. What promises of God are most meaningful to you? Which promises do you find hardest to believe?
3. Do you dig into the word on a regular basis? How might you be more intentional to learn and follow God's word?
4. Where in your life do you need to be reminded to be strong and courageous?
5. How can you encourage others in your life to be strong and courageous?

LIVE IT OUT

These action steps help apply this week's message to day to day life.

Choose one question and talk it over for 5-10 minutes.

1. How can your group pray for you as you seek to believe and trust in God's promises? Is there anything they can do to encourage you in this process?
2. What can you do this week to be more intentional about digging into God's word and meditating on his words? How can your group pray for you in this process?
3. How can your group pray for you as you seek to be more strong and courageous? How can your group help you?

NOTE: On the following page (for most weeks) you will find Pastor Randy's blessing that he prayed over the congregation at the end of his farewell service.



"In the Name of Jesus Christ, I bless you with the promises of God which are 'yes and amen.' May the Holy Spirit make you healthy and strong in body, mind, and spirit, to move in faith and expectancy. May God's angels be with you to protect and keep you."

"May you be blessed with supernatural strength to turn your eyes from foolish, worthless, and evil things. Instead, may you behold the beauty of things that God has planned for you as you obey His Word."

"I bless your ears to hear the lovely, the uplifting, and the encouraging, and to tune out the demeaning and the destructive."

"May your feet walk in holiness and your steps be ordered by the Lord.
May your hands be tender, helping hands to those in need, hands that bless.
May your heart be humble and receptive to one another, and to the things of God, and not to the world. May your mind be strong, disciplined, balanced, and faith-filled."

"May God's grace be upon your home, that it may be a sanctuary of rest and renewal, a haven of peace where sounds of joy and laughter grace its walls, where love and unconditional acceptance of one another is consistent."

"May God give you success and prosperity in your business and places of labor as you acknowledge and put Him first in every area of your life."

"May God give you spiritual strength to overcome the evil one and avoid temptation. God's grace be upon you to fulfill your dreams and visions that He has placed in your heart. May goodness and mercy follow you all the days of your life."

"May the Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace."

"I bless you in Jesus' Name."

Pastor Randy, Sunday, October 27, 2019

