

# Don't Forget to Remember

Joshua 1:1-5:1

## Introduction & Opening Prayer

- Gratitude for fellowship and time in God's Word
- Prayer for guidance and wisdom

## I. Introduction to the Study

### A. Overview of Sessions

- Previous sessions:
  - Dwelling Well Through Joshua (Part 1 & 2)
  - Introduction to Bible study methods
- Today's session: Don't Forget to Remember

### B. Theme of Forgetting and Remembering

- Forgetting is common to all humans
- Critical to remember what truly matters
- **"If you believe God is distant, you will live as if He's not involved in your struggles."**

**Deuteronomy 31:8** – *"It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."*

- Israel's situation: stepping into the Promised Land after 40 years
- God anticipates their forgetfulness and sets them up for success

## II. Foundations for Success

### A. God's Character and Intentions

- **"God does not set us up for failure; He sets us up for success."**
  - Joshua 1:5** – *"No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you."*
- Recognizing this truth shifts our perception of challenges

### B. Our Identity as Theologians

- Everyone has a theology; what we believe about God shapes our actions
- **"The word of God has the biggest center role in right theology."**
  - Joshua 1:8** – *"This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it."*
- Examples of theological misconceptions:
  - If we see God as distant, we act as if He's uninvolved
  - If we see God as untrustworthy, we hesitate to obey
  - If we believe God is all-powerful and present, we live courageously

## III. Three Questions to Reflect On

1. **Do I have right theology?**
  - How does my view of God align with Scripture?
  - Misunderstandings about God can impact obedience and faith
2. **How does my theology shape my obedience and courage?**
  - Theology is not just theoretical; it drives action
  - **"Courage is not about self-confidence. It's about God-confidence."**
    - Joshua 1:9** – *"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."*
3. **What am I doing to remember God's faithfulness?**
  - Active remembrance through tangible acts of faith





## IV. Joshua's Calling and Leadership (Joshua 1:1-9)

### A. Joshua's Transition into Leadership

- Moses' death marks a leadership shift
- Joshua follows in Moses' footsteps but must stand on his own
- God gives repeated instructions: *Be strong and courageous*

### B. Strength & Courage Rooted in God's Presence

- Not self-confidence but *God-confidence*
- **“Be strong and courageous... for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”**
  - **Joshua 1:9**
  - Key verse: Joshua 1:5-9
  - *“I will not leave you or forsake you.”*
  - *“Meditate on the law day and night.”*
    - The role of *meditation on God's Word* for spiritual strength

### C. Biblical Meditation vs. New Age Meditation

- Biblical meditation = *speaking and pondering Scripture*
  - Not an emptying of the mind, but a filling of it with truth

## V. Obedience & Action (Joshua 1:10-18)

### A. Immediate Obedience to God's Commands

- **“Right theology produces immediate obedience.”**
  - **Joshua 1:10-11** – *“And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, ‘Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the Lord your God is giving you to possess.’”*
  - Joshua moves quickly after receiving God's command
  - Leadership and decisiveness: *right theology produces action*
  - No hesitation or delay—obedience is immediate

### B. The Role of the Eastern Tribes (Reuben, Gad, Half of Manasseh)

- These tribes already received their land inheritance east of the Jordan
- They still must *fight alongside their brethren* before settling
- **Key Lessons:**
  1. **Obedience is communal** – Our walk with God impacts others
  2. **Right theology produces selflessness** – True faith isn't self-centered
  3. **God's plan is bigger than personal comfort** – Following God may require temporary discomfort

## VI. Theology and Geography: The Symbolism of the Jordan River

### A. The Jordan as a Threshold for Change

- **“The Jordan River represents change—every time we see it in Scripture, it marks a transition.”**
  - **Joshua 3:17** – *“Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.”*
  - Crossing symbolizes a transition in leadership, life, and faith
  - Connection to Moses, Joshua, and ultimately Jesus
  - **Significance in Jesus' baptism** – another transition in redemptive history

### B. The Meaning of "Rest" (Joshua 1:13-15)

- Different from the Sabbath (Shabbat) rest
- Hebrew word *Nuach* – represents lasting, God-given peace

- Points to the true rest found in Christ (Hebrews 4)

## VII. Theology and Victory

### A. Faith-Fueled Confidence

- Trust in God, not military strength, brings success
- The Israelites' response to Joshua:
  - **“Wherever you command us, we will go.”**
  - Foreshadowing of future failures (Joshua 7 - Achan's sin)

### B. The Greater Joshua: Jesus

- **“Jesus is the greater Joshua—leading us not just into a land, but into eternal rest.”**

**Hebrews 4:8-9** – *“For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken of another day later on. So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God.”*

- Joshua's name in Hebrew (Yehoshua) = *“Yahweh saves”*
- The same name as Jesus (Yeshua) in Greek
- Joshua led Israel into temporary rest; Jesus leads into eternal rest

## VIII. Conclusion: Remembering God's Faithfulness

- Right theology shapes how we:
  1. Trust in God
  2. Obey without hesitation
  3. Live in courage, not fear
- **Key Takeaway:** *“Courage is not self-confidence, but God-confidence.”*
- Encouragement to meditate on God's Word daily, as instructed in Joshua 1:8

### Final Thoughts

- The study of Joshua highlights the necessity of remembering God's works
- Theology is not just knowledge—it's a way of life
- The Promised Land is not just about geography, but faith and obedience

