

# “God’s **PRINCIPLES** for Success in the Unknown Ahead”

Lessons from **JOSHUA**

chapter 5



## RENEWED PRIORITIES



Sunday, January 24, 2021

### MAKE A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

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We are considering the new year seeking to enjoy God’s success in the unknown ahead by applying the principles found in the book of Joshua.

**2 Timothy 2:21** If a man therefore purge [*cleanse*] himself from these [*iniquity (v. 19)*], he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified [*set apart*], and meet [*useful*] for the **Master’s** use, and prepared unto every good work.



How will we be successful in 2021? How will we be able to faithfully follow after God and be a useful vessel that is fit for His use?

In Joshua 3 the focus shifts from the DYNAMIC FAITH of an INDIVIDUAL to the DYNAMIC FAITH of a NATION as the Israelites are called upon to take a STEP FORWARD IN FAITH. We noted that the Lord was calling upon His people to make progress into the promised land, but it would be necessary for them to prepare themselves first in order to see His mighty hand move them forward.

In Joshua 4 there is a call to intentionally remember the MEMORIAL STONES FAITHFULNESS OF GOD. Success is realized as we have REDEMPTIVE INFLUENCE on the next generation and upon our Jerusalem through REDEMPTIVE LIVING in *“the fear of the LORD.”*

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## Renewed Priorities of Our Faith (Joshua 5)

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What did God unveil for you in 2020? As 2021 unfolds, what will be unveiled in your life? What will be revealed about your heart?

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**Matthew 6:33** But seek [*to crave or worship*] ye first the kingdom of **God**, and **His** righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

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### I. The Covenant of Our Faith Renewed (Joshua 5:1-12)

The great spiritual truth of this passage is this: **personal Godliness is the necessary condition of all Christian living and of all Christian service.**

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**Genesis 17:10-11** This *is* **My** covenant, which ye shall keep, between **Me** and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised. **11** And ye shall circumcise the flesh of your foreskin; and it shall be a token of the covenant betwixt **Me** and you.

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#### A. They were to be marked by obedience (Joshua 5:2)

With this command, God is saying to His people, “**Will you humbly obey Me?**”

**Jeremiah 4:4** Circumcise yourselves to the **LORD**, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest **My** fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench *it*, because of the evil of your doings.

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#### B. They were to be marked by dependence (Joshua 5:8)

With this command, God is saying to His people, “**Do you really trust Me?**”

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**Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of **God**, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto **God**, *which is* your reasonable service. **2** And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of **God**.



What marks your life that displays your dependence upon the Lord?

II. The **Celebration** of God's Faithfulness Remembered (Joshua 5:10-12)

With this celebration, God's people say, "Thank You, Father, for Your goodness and faithfulness!"

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How do you intentionally remember and celebrate the goodness and faithfulness of the Lord?

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III. The **Commander** of Our Faith Reestablished (Joshua 5:13-15)

With this confrontation, God is saying to the leader of His people, "Will you **follow Me?**"

A. God reminded Joshua of His **Presence** (Joshua 5:13)

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**Isaiah 41:10** Fear thou not; for I *am* with thee: be not dismayed; for I *am* thy **God**: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of **My** righteousness.

B. God reminded Joshua of His **Preeminence** (Joshua 5:14-15)

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1. Joshua responded with **submission** (Joshua 5:14b)

**1 Peter 5:6** Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of **God**, that **He** may exalt you in due time: **7** Casting all your care upon **Him**; for **He** careth for you.

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2. Joshua responded with **worship** (Joshua 5:15)

**1 Corinthians 10:31** Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of **God**.

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God's PROMISE FOR SUCCESS in the unknown ahead is also realized through renewing the PRIORITIES OF OUR FAITH. The COVENANT OF OUR FAITH is renewed as our faith is marked by humility through obedience and dependence. The CELEBRATION OF OUR FAITH is remembering God's faithfulness. The COMMANDER OF OUR FAITH must be reestablished as we are reminded of God's presence and preeminence.

**What is my next step?** Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

## What Is My Next Step?

**Hearing** — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

**Doing** — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Ephesians 4:22-24

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Text: \_\_\_\_\_ Speaker: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
  - a. What is He like?
  - b. What does He like?
  - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
  - a. What command to obey?
  - b. What promise to claim?
  - c. What principle to apply (*If I do \_\_\_\_\_, then God will do \_\_\_\_\_*)?
  - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
  - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
  - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
  - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,  
Sacrificially love others  
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!