

BABY STEPS OF FAITH WALKING

JOSHUA 1:10-18



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- There are things in life that are overwhelming to the point that they seem to threaten to devour us whole.
- Where do we get started when facing these things?
- Do we have to do it all at once?



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○ Joshua 1:10-11 (English Standard Version)

¹⁰And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, ¹¹"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.'"



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- Baby Steps ~ Don't waste the wilderness
- While we're in the wilderness it can be tempting to think that suffering alone does something positive to us
- Suffering doesn't produce anything by itself
- It *can* push us toward some positive things
- Joshua is coming out of the wilderness and has been commanded to lead the people
- What did he do with his wilderness time to get ready?



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- Commanders & officers were in place
- Joshua had put loyal, capable, committed leaders in place
- They had flocks & herds for food that they didn't waste
- What have you done/are you doing with your wilderness?
- When you come to your next Jordan to cross will you be as ready as possible?



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- Note about age:
- Joshua & Caleb were the oldest in Israel
- They were leading into faithful living; they were not the barriers!
- Their long years in the wilderness were used to build faith & resolve
- They expected God's faithfulness & were leading others to act on that

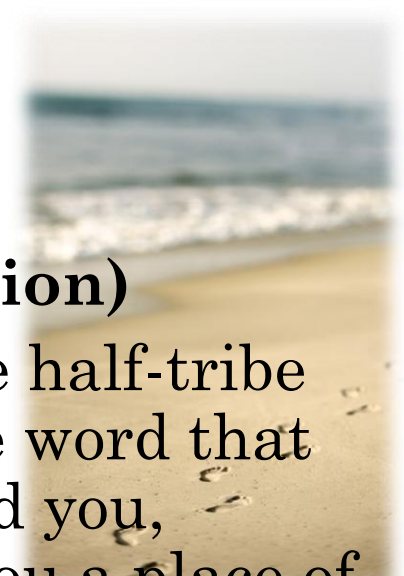


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○ Joshua 1:12-15 (English Standard Version)

¹²And to the Reubenites, the Gadites, and the half-tribe of Manasseh Joshua said, ¹³"Remember the word that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded you, saying, 'The LORD your God is providing you a place of rest and will give you this land.' ¹⁴Your wives, your little ones, and your livestock shall remain in the land that Moses gave you beyond the Jordan, but all the men of valor among you shall pass over armed before your brothers and shall help them, ¹⁵until the LORD gives rest to your brothers as he has to you, and they also take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. Then you shall return to the land of your possession and shall possess it, the land that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you beyond the Jordan toward the sunrise."



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- Baby Steps ~ Don't live on the fringes
- These three tribes:
 - 1. Agreed to sacrifice...
 - No way to know how long, who, or if their families would be safe, yet they committed
 - 2. ...For a short time
 - They would go back to the other side
 - They'd be isolated, suspicious, open to attack



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- 3. Were more interested in making a living than pursuing God's full life (Numbers 32:1)
 - They represent believers who get close to God's blessings but get enamored with something "good"
 - Will serve God & others for a while but will go home as soon as possible



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- Let the light of the Gospel shine everywhere within you!
- Gospel Living = “God’s people being God’s place under God’s rule”
- Be open to the idea that you’ve chosen & settled for the fringes & ask God what’s next



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○ Joshua 1:16-18 (English Standard Version)

¹⁶And they answered Joshua, "All that you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. ¹⁷Just as we obeyed Moses in all things, so we will obey you. Only may the LORD your God be with you, as he was with Moses! ¹⁸Whoever rebels against your commandment and disobeys your words, whatever you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and courageous."



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- Baby Steps ~ Be unified
- This can be hard to do today
- To what will commit with others?
- For whom will we die?
- For what group of people will we live without guarantee of personal & immediate return?



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○ **Matthew 13:44-46 (English Standard Version)**

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, ⁴⁶who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it.



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- Are you unified with us?
- Covenant Membership
- Serving
- Leading
- Missional Living
- There's no time for petty differences or endless debates or flirting with the good on this side of the Jordan
- It all starts with the baby step of unity & commitment ~ “Whatever, we’ll do it! Wherever, we’ll go!”



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- Don't waste your wilderness
- Don't live on the fringes
- Be unified & committed



Covenant Membership Class

May 16 & 23



**ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP AT
THE SANCTUARY?**

**REGISTER ONLINE AT
THESANCTUARYFELLOWSHIP.COM**

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE THE JOURNEY WITH
YOU AS WE SEEK TO LOVE PEOPLE & ENJOY GOD!**

Student Ministry

Sanctus Summer Mission Trip

- **When?** June 6-11
- **Where?** McAllen, TX
- **Why?** To work on impoverished homes, conduct VBS, and more!
- **Who?** Students in grades 7-12
- **How Much?** Total cost is \$215 per person ~ first deposit of \$50 is due NOW!

Hoops of Hope

Saturday, May 8th @ Sartartia Middle School

How you can help:

1. Raise Money: Go to www.hoopsofhope.org to register under the team name – “FLINT TROPIC”
2. Sponsor a participant.
3. Volunteer for the event.

For more information contact Jordan Sanders @ jmjj@att.net.



Family Dedication ~ May 23, 2010

If you are interested in dedicating your family to the Lord, please sign up online at thesanctuaryfellowship.com

Helping Hands



Food Drive to Benefit Helping Hands

Every Sunday in May, bring food and baby items to minister to our community through the Helping Hands ministry in Rosenberg. You can pick up a shopping list at the Resource Center today.

Prayer Newsletter

Prayer Requests Online:

Be a part of praying for our church family OR submit a prayer request.

Simply open the “Resources” tab at thesanctuaryfellowship.com and fill out the forms.

Pray with us!





LADIES MINISTRY

* Mother-Daughter Luncheon ~

Saturday, May 22 @ 11:30

* To sign up online, go to

ladies@thesanctuaryfellowship.com

* Ladies Bible Study ~ Monday, May 3 @ 7 PM

* Pebble Creek Ranch Clubhouse

* Frazzled Female ~ Thursday, May 6

* Moms of preschoolers meet us at the
Greatwood Chick-Fil-A at 9 AM