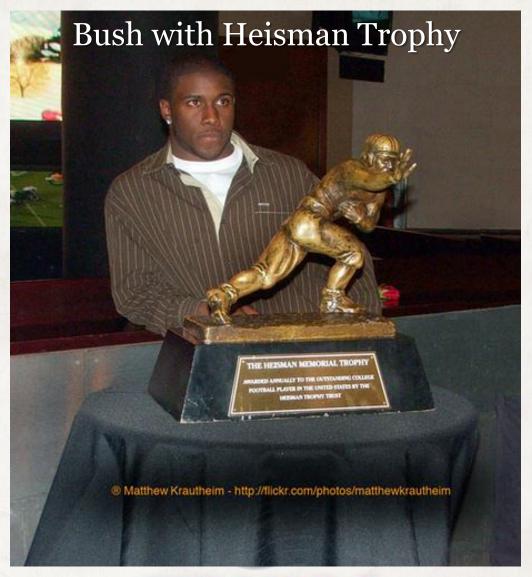


Joshua 7:6-26

Reggie Bush, USC











- The question isn't if we sin, but when...
- ⇒How will we handle our sin?
- ⇒How will we respond to God's grace?
- ⇒Will we turn & go a different direction?



- ⇒First, let's be clear God has been clear! (Joshua 6:18-19)
- They've rushed into Jericho & burned & killed & established themselves in Canaan
- ⇒Next up is Ai & it looks EASY, but...
- They are routed & 36 are killed & the people's heart melt
- ⇒Be ready! Don't be overconfident!



Hebrews 12:14-15 (English Standard Version)

¹⁴Strive for peace with everyone, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no "root of bitterness" springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;



Joshua 7:10-11 (English Standard Version)

¹⁰The LORD said to Joshua, "Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? ¹¹Israel has sinned; they have transgressed My covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings.

- ⇒Joshua asks what's wrong & the Lord answers
- ⇒Will we receive the Lord's answers
- ⇒We're ready to hear about how our enemies or circumstances need to change
- **⇒**Will we hear about us?



- **⊃**God says they have done several things:
- ⇒Sinned = To miss; to fall short of a standard
- ⇒Violated the covenant = To pass over; to move beyond a boundary
- ⇒Stolen from God
- **⊃**Lied
- **⊃**Hidden



Joshua 7:12 (English Standard Version)

Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.



- **⊃**God says there are consequences
- ⇒When we hold onto a hidden sin & hide it, we identify with it & become doomed along with it
- ⇒Luckily, God has a plan!



Joshua 7:14-15 (English Standard Version)

¹⁴In the morning therefore you shall be brought near by your tribes. And the tribe that the LORD takes by lot shall come near by clans. And the clan that the LORD takes shall come near by households. And the household that the LORD takes shall come near man by man. 15 And he who is taken with the devoted things shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done an outrageous thing in Israel.'"

- ⇒Why didn't God just say, "Hey ~ it's Achan!"
- **⊃**1. To highlight community
- **೨**2. To cause self-inspection



Joshua 7:16-20 (English Standard Version)

¹⁶So Joshua rose early in the morning and brought Israel near tribe by tribe, and the tribe of Judah was taken. ¹⁷And he brought near the clans of Judah, and the clan of the Zerahites was taken. And he brought near the clan of the Zerahites man by man, and Zabdi was taken. ¹⁸And he brought near his household man by man, and Achan the son of Carmi, son of Zabdi, son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, was taken. ¹⁹Then Joshua said to Achan, "My son, give glory to the LORD God of Israel and give praise to Him. And tell me now what you have done; do not hide it from me." 20 And Achan answered Joshua, "Truly I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I did:

- Throughout the entire tragic process, Achan never said a word!
- The longer we hold onto hidden sin, the harder it is to let it go
- **⊃**Notice Joshua's take on what confession is:
 - ⇒It's a chance to worship & bring glory to God
 - ⊃1. To deny sin is to call God a liar; denying His glory
 - **೨**2. Agreeing with God about sin shows His glory!



Joshua 7:21-22 (English Standard Version)

²¹...when I saw among the spoil a beautiful cloak from Shinar, and 200 shekels of silver, and a bar of gold weighing 50 shekels, then I coveted them and took them. And see, they are hidden in the earth inside my tent, with the silver underneath." ²²So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and behold, it was hidden in his tent with the silver underneath.



- The pattern of sin
- ⇒See → covet → take
- ⇒What comes before seeing? What comes before I see something that causes me to covet & take?
 - **⊃**Lack of faith
 - **⊃**Misplaced desire



Our Lord finds our desires not too strong, but too weak. We are half-hearted creatures fooling about with drink & sex & ambition when infinite joy is offered us. Like an ignorant child who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at sea. We are far too easily pleased." ~ CS Lewis

೨3. Inner Life



Joshua 7:25-26 (English Standard Version)

²⁵And Joshua said, "Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD brings trouble on you today." And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. ²⁶And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from His burning anger. Therefore, to this day the name of that place is called the Valley of Achor.



- This second pile of stones served as a reminder that there is a God:
- **⊃**1. Who is serious about His ways
- 2. Who is gracious
- ⇒3. Who wants us to love Him & desire Him & to keep Him precious
- **2**4. Who has provided for our hopelessness



- ⇒For the Christian with hidden sin:
- **⊃**My desire for ______ is compromising my desire for God.
- ⇒My desire for ______ is compromising God's reputation & needs to be dealt with.



- ⇒For the unredeemed:
- ⇒Turn → repent → confess → and bring those you love with you!





Children who will be in 1st-5th grade in the 2010-11 school year will promote into Hi-5 on **Sunday, August 22**. You will join us for worship, Bible study and a GREAT time!

Students who will be in grades 6-12 in the 2010-11 school year will promote into Sanctus on **Wednesday, August 11**, in time for our Nacho Libre party.

See you all in your new, exciting ministries in August!

Memorial Wall

God has done so much in our lives! Many of you shared your stories with us & they are now posted online at thesanctuaryfellowship.com.

Experience the faithfulness of God and the faithful lives of His people. Add your own story for your children and to a watching and waiting world.



LADIES: BUNKO NIGHT & BIBLE STUDY

- Please join us on Monday, Aug.
 16th, at 7 PM at the home of Mindi Sanders for Bunko Night! A great night of fun & fellowship!
- Sign up at the Resource Center



- Kick off is Monday,
 Sept 13, at the
 Greatwood Rec Center
- 7-9 pm every otherMon through Nov.
- We'll study Cynthia
 Heald's book,
 Becoming a Woman of
 Excellence, as we
 explore what it means
 to be a woman after
 God's heart
- Sign up next week

Clothing Drive

Help us continue our ministry to the families of VBS!

- We are collecting the following:
 - clothing for all children ~ birth to graduation
 - women & men's sizes
 - shoes, purses, backpacks, and jewelry
- Bring your donations Sunday, August 8th
- Help us deliver on August 12th at 6:00 PM



School Supply Drive: Bowie Elementary

- ✓ Please join us as we support local kids!
- ✓ Bring the needed supplies as listed in your bulletin anytime between August 1st 29th.
- ✓ 4 Count Crayons, Markers, Map Pencils, Red Checking Pencils, #2 Pencils, Glue Sticks, Spiral Wide Ruled Notebooks, Zip Lock Sandwich Bags, Solid Color Pocket Folder with Brads

