

Living Water Fellowship

13th Sunday after Pentecost – 27th August 2023

COME TO JESUS

OPENING SONG: Only a Holy God

WELCOME & PRAYER:

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Joshua 1:1-9

¹ After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' assistant. He said, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Therefore, the time has come for you to lead these people, the Israelites, across the Jordan River into the land I am giving them. ³ I promise you what I promised Moses: 'Wherever you set foot, you will be on land I have given you— ⁴ from the Negev wilderness in the south to the Lebanon mountains in the north, from the Euphrates River in the east to the Mediterranean Sea in the west, including all the land of the Hittites.' ⁵ No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you.

⁶ "Be strong & courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong & very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸ Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day & night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper & succeed in all you do. ⁹ This is my command—be strong & courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

CHILDREN'S TIME:

FAITH CHAT:

1. Where do you most need to "be strong & courageous" in your average week?
2. Where would "the Lord your God is with you" be most encouraging for you this week?

THE MESSAGE: *A JOURNEY OF PROMISE: LIVING THE PROMISE*

OFFERING SONG: I Give you my Heart

PRAYERS:

THE COMMUNION:

The Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion:

VIDEO – O COME TO THE ALTAR (Elevation Worship) - CCL Licence 384660

GO IN HIS POWER

THE BLESSING:

(Name), † child of God...

***“Be strong & courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged.
For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”***

-- Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG:

May the Lord Bless and Keep You (AT 685)

SHOW HIS LOVE

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Joshua 1:1-9. What strikes you as you read these verses? What questions come to mind?
2. What did the death of Moses represent to Joshua? What did it represent to the people? How does change or transition in leadership impact a group?
3. What purpose of God is Joshua called to pursue? What is significant about that calling as revealed in v. 5? How does the repeated command to “be strong & courageous” fit with that call to Joshua? How is it important to you?
4. Quickly read all of Joshua 1. One of the dominant themes of the book of Joshua is that of God’s faithfulness in fulfilling all His “good promises,” especially the promise of the land which He “swore to give to their ancestors.” List the references to God’s giving them the land you see in chapter 1.
5. Even though the sovereign Lord is giving the land to them, the Israelites still have to go in & conquer it. How do God’s sovereign provision & His command to be “strong & very courageous” work together as the Israelites take possession of the Promised Land?
6. According to vs. 7-8, what role does devotion to God’s word play in serving God faithfully? How well are you engaging deeply in God’s word? What more could you do?
7. When something huge & difficult looms in the way of God’s promise or calling in your life, how do you initially respond? Why do you think that is? What are some things that help you get beyond that initial response? Do you see that in Joshua?
8. We know that the “be strong & courageous” command is repeated many times. How has fear & discouragement been a constant plague upon God’s people since they left Egypt? How do they interfere with your faithfulness to God? How does the command sound to you? Doable? Impossible? Why?
9. Many of us have seen God work in our lives in various ways. Nevertheless, it can be difficult to trust God for new challenges & the unseen troubles of tomorrow. Why? How can we develop a more God-founded, faith & trust-filled outlook like Joshua was called to live?
10. Where in your life this week do you need to be “strong & courageous”? Why? How will you allow the Holy Spirit to cultivate that life-orientation in you? Who will you invite alongside to travel this part of the journey with you?