

CONGDON STREET BAPTIST CHURCH/YOUNG ADULT'S CLASS

Joshua 1: 1-11, 17-17

“Courageous Leadership under Fire” (Joshua: A Leader for the People)

September 6, 2009

Adapted from: “Youth Direction”, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc., Sept.-Nov.

Discussion Topics:

- What are the traits of good and bad leaders?
- Can a leader, especially a Christian leader, be effective without knowing God’s Word? Explain.
- Why should you feel confident (not cocky) when God places you in a leadership position, in place of a highly effective and popular leader?

Aim’s - - - Students Should Know That:

1. While it may appear hard to fill another leader’s shoes, know that God gave Moses a job to do that included mentoring and training his successor; and God gave Joshua a job to do and that was to build on what Moses had done and bring the people into the Promised Land (not discredit Moses’ accomplishments or rest on them).
2. God encouraged Joshua and told him to “...be strong and very courageous...”; and if he trusted and obeyed God he would be a successful leader, too; and the key to obeying God’s Word is to know it by studying, meditation, prayer and applying it to our actions.
3. Joshua was a faithful assistant to Moses and God (a humble servant with no ambition for leadership), who developed a relationship with the leaders as he helped to direct God’s people; and when God passed the leadership to him, the people followed him, because they knew that it came from God.

Biblical Journey:

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| I. God Called Joshua as the Next Leader | Joshua 1: 1-5 |
| II. God Encourages Joshua | Joshua 1: 6-9 |
| III. Joshua Organizes to Get the Job Done | Joshua 1: 10-11, 16-17 |

Q & A

1. *“Put yourself in Joshua’s place. What issues do you think Joshua faced when he was called upon to replace Moses?”*

2. *What specific directives and promises did God give to Joshua?*

3. *Do you think that the directives and promises Joshua received helped him become an effective leader? Explain your answer.*

4. *What are some challenges that you face at your church regarding leadership? How can you help with these challenges?”*

5. What did the Holy Spirit reveal to you through this lesson?

I learned that:

Many Christian leaders get so busy that they neglect prayer, bible study and meditation that is so crucial to leadership (this goes hand in hand with the faith we need to be effective leaders, while we accept responsibility, and depend on God for guidance)

Concerning death: *“1) death gives opportunity for the next generation to fulfill its purpose; 2) death keeps us from exalting ourselves; and 3) death is also designed to turn us to God.”*