# PROMISES & POWER

Restoration Message 7

Perry Duggar February 19, 2023

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...Then the LORD said to Joshua, "... I will hand the town over to you."

Joshua 8:18 (NLT)

A. Introduction (Joshua 7:10-12,25-26)

- B. Restoring my faith by... (Joshua 8:1-35)
  - 1. Responding to God's \_\_\_\_\_\_ direction. (Joshua 8:1-13. C/R: Proverbs 3:5-6; John 16:13; James 1:5-8)

2.	Removing an	God's way.		
	(Joshua 8:14-29. C/R: Galatians 5:16; James 1:19 1 John 5:4-5)			
3.	Renewing			
	(Joshua 8:30-35. C/R: Ephesians 4:21-24;			
	Hebrews 10:14-18; James 4:7-10)			

**Answers:** 1. differing 2. adversary 3. covenant

**Resource Information:** Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

## Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to pursue a deeper relationship with Jesus. To connect with others, visit <u>brookwoodchurch.org/adults</u>.

#### **Conversation Starter**

Describe a time you kept going even though you felt like giving up.

## Begin your study with prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Then ask God for insight and direction as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

## **Bible Study and Group Discussion**

#### Read Joshua 8:1-2.

- 1. After defeat, God encouraged Joshua to *not be afraid or discouraged*. Can you think of a time you felt discouraged or defeated? What helped you get through that time? Share with your group what happened.
- 2. In the battle at Jericho, God commanded the Israelites to keep only things made of silver, gold, bronze or iron. Why do you think, in this battle, God told them they could keep the plunder and livestock?

#### Read Joshua 8:3-17.

- 3. Joshua used a brilliant military strategy to defeat Ai. Describe a time you received clear direction from God. How did you respond? What happened?
- 4. The book of Joshua, in large part, is about conquering enemies. What in your life is being attacked? How is God leading you to fight?
- 5. What things in life are worth fighting for?

#### Read Joshua 8:18-29.

- 6. This section describes the Israelites' victory at Ai. Describe a time you experienced God working in your life. How does it feel knowing God still loves you and fights for you even when you fail?
- 7. In what ways is the battle against Ai different than the battle against Jericho (Joshua chapter 6)? What spiritual lessons do you learn from each of these battles?

#### Read Joshua 8:30-35.

- 8. Why do you think it was important, at this time in particular, for Israel to reaffirm their commitment to the Lord and His covenant?
- 9. After victory, Joshua gave glory to God. How often do you worship God when He helps you? How can this become a more regular practice?

10. What truth is God revealing to you from this week's lesson? How can you apply this truth in your daily living?

### **Spiritual Practice**

A spiritual practice is something we can do to help us live in and enjoy God's grace. We hope these will become a regular part of your life, so that walking and talking with God is the most natural thing you do.

Jesus won our greatest battle when He secured victory over sin and death. This week spend time meditating on Romans 6. Thank God for specific ways He's enabled you to overcome sin and regain strength after failure. Watch or listen to <a href="You've Already Won (Live)">You've Already Won (Live)</a> | Shane & Shane and renew your devotion to Him and to following His path for your life.

## **Memory Verse**

The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand.

Psalm 37:23-24 (NLT)

## **Daily Reading**

Day 1: John 16:13 Day 4: Hebrews 10:14-18 Day 2: James 1:5-8 Day 5: Ephesians 4:21-24

Day 3: 1 John 5:4-5

## **Prepare for Next Sunday**

Next Sunday, February 26, we'll continue the series in Joshua, *Promises and Power*. To prepare, read **Joshua 9-10:15**.

