L1.34: Joshua in Training

Exodus 17, 24, 32

In the tribe of Ephraim, there was a man named Nun who had a son named Hoshea, whom Moses called Joshua (Numbers 13:16). Joshua was a slave in Egypt when God sent Moses to deliver Israel from bondage. Joshua and his family left Egypt with more than two million other Israelites as Moses led them toward the Promised Land. Moses saw potential in Joshua to be a good leader, and God began to use Joshua in His service. What did the future hold for this young man? In the book of Exodus we begin to uncover the beginning of Joshua's adventures.

Discuss:

- Joshua went from being a slave to commanding the armies of Israel in a very short period of time. How does having a relationship with God help us to be successful in our lives?
- Joshua was with the elders when they ate before God. He was with Moses on the mountain for forty days when Moses received the Ten Commandments. What lessons do you think Joshua was learning from these opportunities?



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- Joshua served Moses, but he also developed a personal relationship with God. What can you do to help you be closer to God?
- How do you think Joshua's service to Moses was preparing him to be a good leader?

Memory Challenge:

Exodus 24:13

"So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God."

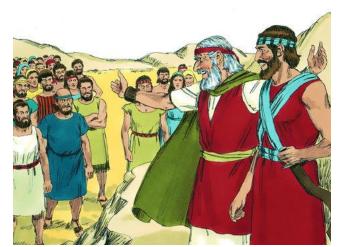
L1.35: Joshua's Faithfulness in the Wilderness

Numbers 13-14

Israel tested God over and over again while in the wilderness. They were constantly complaining and often refused to obey God. However, Joshua had a different attitude. When the Israelites reached the entrance to the promised land Moses selected one man from each tribe to secretly go into Canaan and spy out the land. Joshua was selected from the tribe of Ephraim. The twelve men were to report back on what they saw. Was the land truly flowing with milk and honey? Were there big walls around the cities? The Israelites waited expectantly to hear what the spies would say.

Discuss:

- Why was Joshua selected to be one of the spies?
- Did the spies find a truly rich land just as God had said? How did they describe it?
- Why did the spies demand that Moses take them back to Egypt?
- Of the twelve men sent to spy out the land of Canaan, only Joshua and Caleb brought back a good report. Why was their report different from the other men?
- Joshua and Caleb were faithful to
 God even when everyone else
 wanted to give up. How did God bless them for trusting in Him?
- God always blesses and rewards those who are faithful to Him. How can we show faithfulness to God?



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Memory Challenge:

Numbers 14:6–7

But Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, who were among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of Israel, saying: "The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land."

L1.36: Joshua Becomes Israel's Leader

Deuteronomy 31 - Joshua 1

The children of Israel refused to go up to the Promised Land as God had told them. Because of their disobedience, God caused Israel to wander in the wilderness for 40 years. All the adults of that generation died in the wilderness except for Joshua and Caleb. After a long and productive life, it was time for Moses to die. God selected Joshua to be Israel's next leader and gave him some very important instructions.

Discuss:

- Why did God allow Joshua and Caleb to survive the 40 years in the wilderness?
- Joshua had served Moses for more than 40 years, before assuming his role as the new leader of Israel. What are you learning today that will help you be a better leader in the future?
- God always has a work for His people to do. Joshua's mission was to lead the children of Israel into Israel, with God's guidance. What is our mission today?



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God inspired Moses to challenge
 Joshua to be strong and courageous. In what ways do you show strength and courage?

Memory Challenge:

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.

L1.37: Joshua's Leadership in the Promised Land

Joshua 2-6

After Moses' death, God selected Joshua to lead the children of Israel into their new homeland. But it would not be easy! The Canaanites lived there, and would not leave willingly, even though God had promised this land to the Israelites hundreds of years earlier. Joshua knew that God would fight for Israel, if necessary, to fulfill His promise. In Egypt God brought Pharaoh to his knees with plagues, forcing Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go. What miracles would God perform to help His people this time? How would He bring the Israelites into a land flowing with milk and honey? How would God help Israel now?

Discuss:

- Israel fought many battles to go into the promised land, but who was the one who made sure they won against their enemies?
- How did Joshua show loyalty to God?
- What were some of the miracles that God performed for the Israelites as they came into the land of Canaan?
- Joshua set a good example as Israel's leader. What are some things we can do to set a good example for others?



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Memory Challenge:

Joshua 6:27

So the LORD was with Joshua, and his fame spread throughout all the country.