



Owasso First Assembly

Pastor Bruce McCarty

Congratulations to our Graduates!

May 4, 2025

JOSHUA—THE COURAGEOUS HERO

Vault verse for this series: Philippians 3:17 (ESV) *Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.*

1. The Bible is filled with examples for us—some to avoid and others to follow. 1 Cor:10
2. Biblical heroes are known for faith, courage, selflessness, integrity, perseverance, obedience, and compassion.
3. The Bible tells the stories of hundreds of godly heroes.
4. Heroes are led by their conscience more than public opinion.
5. Joshua is mentioned over 200 in the Bible. (11th most mentioned name in the Bible) Joshua is also the Old Testament name for Jesus—meaning Yahweh saves.
6. Joshua was the servant of Moses and his successor.
7. Joshua led the people of Israel into the promised land.
8. Joshua's life is a template for a productive life. He was courageous, faithful, and obedient.

1. Joshua was devoted in his youth

1. He was an honorable son. 30 times he is described as the son of Nun.
2. He was born in Egypt and was the firstborn.
3. He was a slave who endured oppressive treatment. He allowed his adversity to positively shape his character.

2. Joshua was a servant to Moses for 40 years

1. Joshua is first seen in scripture (Exodus 17:9) serving Moses as a soldier for Israel.
2. Joshua was described as a servant, assistant, aide, minister to Moses. Joshua 1:1
3. Joshua was humble, trustworthy, honest, godly, and alert.
4. Joshua went on a 40-day assignment with 11 other men to scout Canaan. He was brave and steady. Only 1 of the other leaders shared his faith.

3. Joshua was selected by God to lead when Moses died

1. Joshua wasn't the only one considered by Moses, but prayer and patience revealed God's will.
2. There is a balance between procrastination and presumption. Human nature struggles with that.
3. Joshua was encouraged to be strong and courageous by Moses and God. Deut. 31 Joshua 1
4. Joshua was informed that he would lead the people into the promised land to possess it.
5. Joshua was assured that God would go before him and give him success.

4. Joshua would lead the Israelites into new experiences

1. Joshua led the Israelites through the **Jordan River** similar to Moses leading through the Red Sea.
2. Moses was leading them out of Egypt, but Joshua was leading them into the promised land.
3. For approximately 30 years, Joshua led the Israelites in the conquest of Canaan.
4. The conquest was marked with brilliant success and tragic failure. Joshua was faithful in every situation.
5. Joshua gives one final charge before his death in Joshua 24.

Lessons to learn from the life of Joshua:

1. Be Strong and Courageous Josh 1:6, 7, 9, 18

True strength comes from trusting God, not our abilities.

2. Obedience Brings Victory Joshua 6

Joshua followed God's unique battle plan, even though it seemed unconventional. His obedience led to an incredible victory.

3. Faith Requires Action Joshua 3:14-17 (Crossing the Jordan River)

The priests had to step into the river before it parted. Sometimes, God asks us to take a step of faith before we see results.

4. Surround Yourself with Godly Influence Numbers 13-14 (Joshua and Caleb's faith)

While others doubted, Joshua and Caleb remained faithful. Choosing faith-filled friends impacts our ability to trust God.

5. God Fights for You Joshua 10:12-14 (Sun standing still)

Joshua asked God for a miracle, and God answered. No battle is too big when we depend on Him.

6. Leave a Legacy of Faith Joshua 24:14-15

Joshua made a clear declaration that his household would serve the Lord. His legacy was one of unwavering faith.

Joshua 24:14–15 (ESV) ¹⁴ *“Now therefore fear the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.”* ¹⁵ *And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”*