

Question 6

- a) Leadership is by appointment of God and needs to be publically recognised as being reliant on the Spirit of God to carry out (Numbers 27:19).
- b) Ideally, experience should be gained under the supervision of a more experienced leader (Numbers 27:20).
- c) The primary requirement of leadership is that of seeking God's will. It is God who initiates, not the leader! (Numbers 27:21).
- d) When that will is determined then there should be a united acting on it (Numbers 27:21).
- e) Leadership is demanding and needs strength and courage (Deuteronomy 31:7).
- f) Leadership is always under the hand of God and about trusting Him and following Him (Deuteronomy 31:8).

GROUP LEADERS NOTES – STUDY 3

This study will act as our final build-up to the book of Joshua and continues Joshua's preparation for the great task that God has set him apart to do.

Question 1

- a) It would leave the people in no doubt that Joshua was to succeed Moses.
- b) It would also show that Moses endorsed the appointment.
- c) Eleazar was the High Priest and it was important in this position he recognised Joshua as God's chosen leader. Verse 21 reveals that it would be he who would approach God on Joshua's behalf; whereas Moses entered the presence of God directly e.g. **Exodus 34:34**.
- d) Notice that Joshua was a man in whom the Holy Spirit dwelt. In Old Testament times the Spirit was given to particular people for particular tasks. Here the people would recognise the anointing of this man for this leadership role.

Question 2

- a) God was gracious to Joshua in enabling him to take on some of the responsibility of leadership while Moses was still there.
- b) The transition meant that Joshua got used to leading and the people got used to him being the leader. He had someone to lean on.
- c) This is a very helpful pattern for those coming into Church leadership. To work for a while under an experienced Pastor, with gradually increasing responsibility and authority, is good preparation.

Question 3

- a) Whatever military experience he has gained (study 1); and whatever spiritual maturity is demonstrated (study 2); if Joshua is going to be a good leader he must seek the Lord.
- b) The Urim and Thumin were two stones; one of which represented a curse, and the other a blessing (see **Exodus 28:29-30**). The stones were used when casting lots to determine God's will; particularly in times of crisis.

Question 4

- a) It is important to highlight in this verse, the significance of Joshua being summoned by Moses to stand "*in the sight of all Israel*". This gave all the people an idea of the extent of Joshua's task.
- b) Verse 7 is almost word for word the declaration that God gives to Joshua in Joshua 1:6.
- c) The need to be "*strong and courageous*" suggests:
- d) That the task is going to be very demanding.
- e) That the person undertaking it is weak and fearful.

Question 5

- a) The key to certain victory and success is found in the fact that "*It is the Lord who goes before you*". Joshua may be the leader, but only under the hand of God.
- b) References to the Ark of the Covenant going in front of the people were a symbol of this great truth: e.g. **Numbers 10:33; Joshua 3:11**.
- c) Draw out from the group the connection between this statement (a) and the two made at the end of verse 7: i.e. God's faithfulness to his promises; and the fact that they were to take possession of the land (in other words they have been given it already as we saw in Study 1).
- d) Added to this, verse 8 declares that God would not only be with them, but would never leave them or forsake them; despite their tendency to forsake Him and His laws.