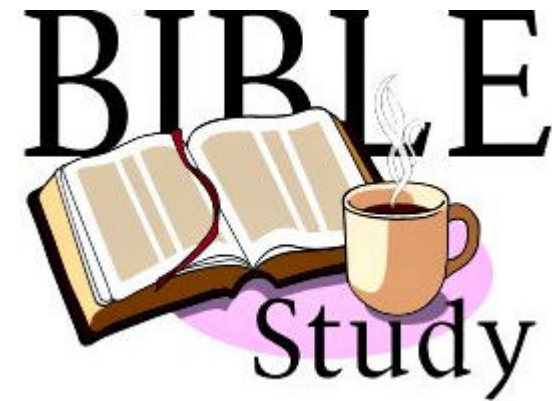


Joshua – The man and the message

STUDY 1

Reading: Joshua 1:1-6



'And what experience would you bring to this job?'

Home Fellowship Group Bible Study Questions

Tuesday 20th/Wednesday 21st May 2014

Joshua 1:2 is not everyone's idea of an appealing job offer! So who is this man about to step into some of the biggest shoes in Biblical history?



Exodus 33:11 tells us that Joshua was a young man when he left Egypt. Moses takes him under his wing and for the next forty years he undergoes training that, unbeknown to him, prepares him to fulfil God's promise given to Abraham 500 years earlier (Genesis 12) and lead the Israelites into the Promised Land.

We preface our studies in the book of Joshua by looking back over some of those events in the wilderness that would shape this young man's life and ultimately bring him to the point of this specific call to take over from Moses.

Enter Joshua!

Read: Exodus 17:8-16

- 1) This account is set only two months into the journey through the wilderness to the Promised Land. *Why is Joshua's call to lead an army against the enemy such a challenge at this point in the story?*

"Joshua was chosen to lead the soldiers of Israel into battle, but the most noteworthy feature of this conflict did not take place on the battlefield. It occurred on the top of a nearby hill..." (Roger Ellsworth).

- 2) Do you agree with the analysis in the above quote; and what does it teach us today?
- 3) Joshua was clearly a military leader. However, verses 11-12 reveal an aspect of the battle that had nothing to do with how well the Israelites were fighting. *What lessons can be learnt here about leadership; yet also can apply to the life on any believer?*
- 4) Looking back at our reading from Joshua 1, what would you say has to be the key lesson learnt at Rephidim; putting Joshua in good stead for the many battles that would be faced after he had led the people into Canaan?
- 5) Moses is told how to keep a permanent remembrance of the victory God had given His people; and in particular to ensure Joshua heard it. *What is so important about the name 'The Lord is my banner', that this future leader must hear about it?*
- 6) How are you encouraged by what Joshua learns in this passage?