

# Joshua: Gaining Ground

## Part 1 Where to Start

Mosaic Rockford - Dave Spooner – April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016

### Intro:

- If you want to move forward to gain ground in your life, then this next sermon series will be the strategy guide for breakthrough into new areas of freedom and life.
- Ask the Lord to speak to you – take these things to heart and apply them.
- Set up the series - gaining ground . . . From Where to Start to Leaving a Legacy from the life and lessons of Joshua . . .
- Back ground on what was happening at that time . . . Joseph – Slavery – Moses/deliverance
- We all come from some sort of difficult situation / we all have a history / we all have new ground to take

### Identify your promise land

- Pain and Pleasure and both strong motivators . . .
- Think/pray about where you want to go . . .
- Aptitude and Altitude
- Internal vs External motivation

### Assist someone you respect

- Find someone who you respect that is doing what you want to do and learn from them.
- We know Joshua did this with his own life:

#### **Num 11:28 Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth**

- He started early – the sooner the better . . .
- He was with him in most everything, leaders, at the tent of meeting, and on the mountain (Ex 24:12-14, Ex 33:11)

Transition: The first time Joshua was mentioned in the Bible is in Exodus chapter 17 . . . (first battle)

#### **Ex 17:8-10 ESV**

**Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. 9 So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." 10 So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill.**

### Do what is asked of you

- So you are assisting and learning . . . do what is asked of you . . . (at work / physical goal / relationships / personal)
- Training is important . . . this is where Joshua learned the skills he needed for the future . . .
  - Education and Experience

### Enlist others to help you

- There are those who can help you along your way . . . (ask God for them . . .)
- You don't have to do it alone – it is very important to have people with you
  - Life is a team sport – (Fathers / Brothers / Sons . . .)

Ex 17:11-12 ESV

Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup> But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

### Know the source of your strength

- Without the help, support and favor of God, you will loose and not go forward and gain freedom
  - Make sure you are continually connected, give praise and thanks . . .
  - To move into something bigger and better you must be connected to someone who is bigger and better
  - This is where people fail . . .
    - In our lives, in your work, in this church . . .
- Also knowing the source of our strength helps us with being limited by pride . . .

Ex 17:13 ESV

And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

### Overwhelm the enemy

- Come at the problem from every angle and with all your resources . . . (debt, weight, expansion, addition, etc.)
- Don't do this half hearted . . . because you will fail
- Overwhelm the enemy . . .

### Conclusion

- Identify your promise land
- Assist someone you respect
- Do what is asked of you
- Enlist others to help you
- Know the source of your strength
- Overwhelm the enemy