

Questions for the Week



Connect (pick 1 question to ask the group)

1. What are you thanking the Lord for this week?
2. Is there anything in your life that we can pray for together this week?

Study (Read Joshua 1:7-9)

1. God instructs Joshua to be strong and courageous. Why is courage an essential part of a life of faith?
2. It's easy to think that Biblical instructions are mostly metaphor. But it seems like God is giving a literal instruction for His people to highly prioritize His laws. How would the Israelites have kept the word of God on their lips, literally meditating on it day and night? How can you do that in your home and workplace?
3. What do you think it means to meditate on God's laws? Why do you think we are instructed to meditate on scripture?
4. The Israelites needed courage to face physical enemies. We are probably not fearing for our lives, so how do we apply courage to our lives?

Reflect

1. Based on this passage, is there anything you personally need to confess, consider, or surrender to God?
2. Is there any relationship or situation in your life that this story applies to?

Leader Notes

In this story God is giving Joshua and, by extension, the Israelites instruction for their journey into the promised land. They are told to have courage and they are told to remember and obey God's laws. The implication here is that God's laws are not something that we read once and obey. We should consider them, think about them. Meditating on God's word is not the clearing of the mind like Buddhist meditation, it is deeply considering the implications of God's teaching. Scripture is not an instruction manual that we can read once and be done with. It is a "living and active" word that we understand more deeply the longer we spend with it. There is a link between our understanding of God's word, our obedience to God's word, and our courage to face the challenges of life. Our commitment to faithfully - and bravely - follow God's commands is directly connected to our commitment to grow in our understanding of God through scripture.