

**Sermon Series: *Joshua: Power of God* Sermon Title: *Preparation for Leadership* Scripture: Numbers 13, 14; Exodus 17, 24** Pastor Chris Fritz Sunday, February 9, 2020

**INTRODUCTION**

The Bible in One Sentence: Through Jesus, God is restoring everything that sin ruined.

Part 1 - Preparing the Nation (chapters 1-5)

Part 2 - Defeating the Enemy (chapters 6-12)

Part 3 - Claiming the Inheritance (chapters 13-21)

Part 4 - Renewing the Covenant (chapters 22-24)

Note: The purpose of our study is not to learn about Joshua or the nation of Israel but about God!

**I. BEFORE HE WAS JOSHUA THE GENERAL…**

**1) …he wasn’t “Joshua” at all; his name was “Hoshea”.**

***Numbers 13:8, 16 -***

Note: While “Hoshea” simply means “salvation”, “Joshua” means “Yahweh is salvation”.

***Psalm 121 -***

**2) …he was a slave in Egypt and, most likely, the first-born in his family.**

***John 8:31-36 -***

***“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” (Galatians 5:1)***

***“For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.” (Galatians 5:13)***

**3) …he was a soldier who knew how to take, follow, and obey orders!**

***Exodus 17:8-16 -***

Note: Dependence upon God (expressed in prayer, faith, and trust) is the backbone of any successful life and ministry!

***“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” (Matthew 26:41)***

***“I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)***

**4) …he was servant to Moses and witness to the glory of God!**

***Exodus 24:1-2, 9-18; 2 Corinthians 4:6-7, 16-18 -***

**5) …he was a spy who boldly testified to the goodness and power of God.**

***Numbers 14:5-10 -***

Note: Joshua was not afraid to be in the minority when that minority included God.

***“For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Philippians 1:21)***

**Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…**

1. Why do you think Moses changed Joshua’s name from “Hoshea” to “Joshua”?
2. As a slave who was rescued out of Egypt, what kinds of things did Joshua experience?
3. What does it mean to be “free” in Christ? Free from what? What does this freedom look like?
4. What did Joshua, as a soldier, need to learn while fighting in Exodus 17?
5. What kinds of things did Joshua see and experience as a servant to Moses?
6. Where can we look today to see the glory and goodness of God and be moved to worship?
7. How can you, like Joshua, encourage others to trust and walk with God?