

5. The Gibeonites, hearing about God's wonders on behalf of the Israelites, fear God and essentially surrender to him. When Joshua asks the Gibeonites why they used deception to seek peace, they explained that they had no other choice.

"Because it was told to your servants for a certainty that the Lord your God had commanded his servant Moses to give you all the land and to destroy all the inhabitants of the land from before you—so we feared greatly for our lives because of you and did this thing. And now, behold, we are in your hand. Whatever seems good and right in your sight to do to us, do it." (Joshua 9:24-25)

This raises a host of questions since God supports Joshua's campaign to protect Gibeon and since God had hardened the hearts of the other Canaanites so that, apparently, this very thing would not happen. How might God's providential hand be at work in all this?

6. How can the character of God revealed in Joshua 9-10 give you more courage to lead?

7. God is in a battle against evil and a day is coming when evil will be vanquished. How should this eventual outcome inspire us to lead according to Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:51-58 (the text is printed in the outline)?

8. Looking back over this week's sermon, DailyLife, and this study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

**SERIES:** The Promised Land (Joshua & Judges)

**SERMON 3:** "Courageous Leadership"

**TEXT:** Joshua 10:1-27

**DATE:** October 17/18, 2015

### Three Steps Courageous Leaders Take

1. Step into the \_\_\_\_\_.

Joshua 10:1-7

2. Step out in \_\_\_\_\_.

Joshua 10:8

3. Step up to God's \_\_\_\_\_.

Joshua 10:9-15, 22-27

Luke 10: <sup>17</sup> The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!" <sup>18</sup> And he said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. <sup>19</sup> Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

1 Corinthians 15: <sup>51</sup> Behold! I tell you a mystery. We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, <sup>52</sup> in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we shall be changed. <sup>53</sup> For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written:

"Death is swallowed up in victory."

<sup>55</sup> "O death, where is your victory?"

O death, where is your sting?"

<sup>56</sup> The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>58</sup> Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

☀ Our DailyLife devotional will take you on a guided journey through Joshua and Judges over the eight weeks of this series. To receive DailyLife in your inbox, write "please send DailyLife" on your Communication Card. Make sure we have your current email address. If you do not receive it within the next few days, check your email spam or promotions box.

## SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Joshua 10

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Why does it take courage to lead, whether in our families, our workplaces, in the community, or in the world?
3. What are some of the situations in your life where you are called by God to lead?
4. Courageous leaders step into the uncertainty. Joshua takes action (Joshua 6:1-7) in spite of the uncertainty created by his own mistake. He was duped into making a treaty with the Gibeonites (who were Canaanites) because he failed to consult the Lord (Joshua 9:14). Now he must choose between breaking an oath or disobedience to God's mandate to destroy the Canaanites. Joshua decides to keep the oath and he sets out to protect the Gibeonites from attack. Our own sins and mistakes complicate leadership and create uncertainty. How is leading into the uncertainty played out in our homes and in our churches?