

Sermon Discussion Questions

Three Cups of Courage

Joshua 1:1-18

January 6, 2019

1. The movie clip at the beginning of the sermon spoke of how we love stories of people with courage and bravery. Any stories (real or fiction), movies, books that you have loved because they inspired you to be courageous?
2. Notice the label Moses is given in Joshua 1:1, 2, 7, 13, and 15. Exodus 14:31 is the first time Moses is called this after he led the Israelites through the Red Sea. Discuss the significance of this honorable label. What do you think it would take to receive this label? How would we pursue a life that could be labeled like that?
3. Why wait until Moses is dead before entering the land: “Moses My Servant is dead” (v.2)? Answer: He was not to enter the promised land because he did not treat the Lord as holy in the sight of the sons of Israel (Numbers 20:1-2 sets the stage; then Numbers 20:8-12 was the sin). The Lord spoke to Moses (Deuteronomy 32:48-52) saying that Moses “broke faith with” the Lord “in the midst of the sons of Israel at the waters of Meribah-kadesh, in the wilderness of Zin, because [he] did not treat [the Lord] as holy in the midst of the sons of Israel” (Deut. 32:51; cf. 34:1-4).
 - a. Although we are under grace and not Law, how might this forfeiture of the reward of the land inspire us to honor the Lord (cf. 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)?
4. Remember what the first cup of courage was? Of the three ways God fills us up with courage, which one can you identify with the most and which one the least and why?
 - a. A scenario: *Adam and his coworker in the next office have a presentation they have to give to the board. They are both a bit nervous and Adam says to her that God is who gives him courage. She nicely, yet directly says, “Needing God for courage is a crutch.”*
 - i. How would you counsel Adam on how to talk to his co-worker about God filling our cup of courage?
5. Joshua 1:8 is a well-known, often quoted verse. How do Psalm 111:10; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; John 14:21, 23 support Joshua 1:8 for us? In what ways do you exercise what is written in Joshua 1:8?
6. Joshua 1:12-15 is explained in Numbers 32. The point Jeremy made was that we are to inspire each other to gain courage. Do you have any stories of how God used people (or a person) to inspire you to have courage?
7. In Joshua 1:16-18 the people splashed courage back on to Joshua. How might God use you to inspire those who are in leadership positions to lead with courage?