

Joshua

Part 7 – The Negative Side of Us

Joshua 7-8

Body illness / Computer Code (it may be one guy's code but you all lose the contract) – one wrong thing causes a systemic mess

- Is it fair? Doesn't really matter – it's the way it is because it's connected

Biblically, we are connected – so what affects one affects more than one

- More connected than the world wants us to believe
- That's a real positive in some ways because we can (and do) take care of each other

Principle: individual responsibility *and* corporate accountability

- Achan was guilty but Israel was accountable (v.10, 19)
 - This is the negative side of us when we're talking about sin
- God isn't just indwelling me, He's indwelling us (v.8-9)
 - Ephesians 2.19-22

Principle: seriousness of sin

- Achan's sin was coveting (v.20-21)
 - He saw (eyes) – He wanted (desire) – He took (action)
 - To live at the whim of your desires is slavery – to live according to His Word is freedom
 - Never about the silver and gold because it was destroyed (v.24)
- Sin always has greater effects than you anticipate
 - Tolerating sin leads to defeat, repenting of sin leads to victory
 - His sin cost 36 men their lives and his family theirs (v.5, 24)
- Death is on the line
 - No one questioned the sentence handed down
 - Romans 6.23
 - Achor / Achan – someone has to pay for the trouble

When we take our sin as seriously as God does...

1. The Lord assures us (8.1)
2. The Lord can grant victory (8.3-29)
3. We can recalibrate (8.30-32)

Questions for Discussion:

1. Where have you experienced the first principle: individual responsibility and corporate accountability? How is this a negative at times? A positive?
2. Read Ephesians 2.11-22. God makes it clear Jesus died (in part) to make different people into one kind of people. How does this truth change your key relationships?
3. What are some examples of the See – Desire – Take paradigm of sin?
4. Why is death the price God demands for sin (cf. Romans 6.23)?
5. When we confess our sin, what are practical ways the Lord assures us? What are ways we can recalibrate to His Word?