

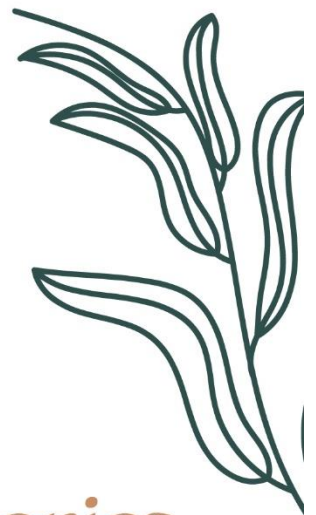
ENCOURAGEMENT

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FELLOWSHIP

Steadfast

SMALL GROUPS



Beachside Women's Fall Series

✦ THE BOOK OF JOSHUA ✦
6-8pm Thursday Evenings

Steadfast

Beachside Womens Fall Series

This fall, the women of Beachside will be gathering together every other Thursday evening from 6-8pm to continue to dig into the Book of Joshua. Each evening there will be a message on the chapters for the week followed by small group discussion. There will be fellowship, encouragement, and time in the Word where we focus on being steadfast in the LORD. We pray that you will join us and invite a friend. Below is the reading schedule so that you can read the chapters ahead of time.

Reading Schedule *(chapters to read before meeting)*

- September 14 - Joshua Chapters 7- 8
- September 28 - Joshua Chapters 9-10:27
- October 12 - Joshua Chapters 10:28-13:33
- October 26 - Joshua Chapters 14-16
- November 2 - Joshua Chapters 17-18
- November 16 - Joshua Chapters 19-20

Chapters 21-24 will be covered in the new year

Joshua Study Questions

Chapters 7 and 8

For Personal Reflection:

The Israelites initially faced defeat due to their own sin, yet the LORD was gracious. Meditate upon the victory God gave to the Israelites. In what areas of your life have you felt defeated? In what areas has God given you victory? In what areas of your life is He now calling you to action?

1. Compare the plan for attacking Ai in Chapter 7 with the plan in Chapter 8. List the similarities and the differences between the two plans.

2. What were the circumstances surrounding each attack?

- a) How did these circumstances impact the outcome of the battles?

3. What happened immediately after the victory in Chapter 8? (See vs. 24-29)

- a) What do these verses tell us about: (provide supporting verses)

- The Character of God?

- The obedience of the Israelites?

4. After the battle was completed, what was the next action Joshua took? (vs.34-35)

a) List who was involved in the activities Joshua led:

b) Do any of the attendees listed catch your attention? If so, who and why?

- What does this tell us about the character of God?

5. Compare the actions of Joshua in Chapter 8 with the ministry of Jesus Christ. Write down your thoughts with scripture references if possible.

6. What truth about God and/or the Spirit filled life do you see in these chapters?

Chapters 9 through 10:27

For Personal Reflection:

In 2 Corinthians 6:14, Paul tells us not to be “unequally yoked together with unbelievers.” Have you ever felt unequally yoked in a friendship, workplace or other relationship? Has the Holy Spirit given you discernment in any of these situations? How does this discernment give you wisdom in your relationships going forward?

Chapter 9

1. Read Exodus 34:12 and compare this with Joshua’s actions toward the Gibeonites. What do you conclude?

2. What spiritual principle does this highlight? (See James 1:5; Philippians 4:6; Colossians 4:2. List any other verses you find.)

3. Why did Joshua keep his promise to the Gibeonites?

- a) For deeper thought: Read Psalm 15. How is this Psalm reflected in the actions of Joshua (note the end of verse 4)?

4. Read the testimony of the Gibeonites regarding Israel in verses 24 and 25. Compare their response to their knowledge of God to that of Rahab in Joshua 2:8-13.

Chapter 10:1-27

5. Joshua honors Israel's treaty with the Gibeonites by joining them in battle against their enemies. Compare Joshua's/Israel's part in the battle with what God did in the battle.

6. Read Joshua 10:12-14. Compare this event with Hebrews 4:16, Ephesians 3:20.

a) What truths about the heart of God toward His children do you see in these verses?

b) What truths about the Spirit filled life do you see?

7. How did Joshua encourage the men of Israel in vs. 24-27? What picture of the spirit filled life does this represent? (Share any verses that come to mind)

8. The large stones covering the cave were another type of monument for the people (stones of remembrance). What might this memorial signify?

Chapter 10:28 to 13:33

For Personal Reflection:

We see the LORD continue to deliver the enemy into Joshua’s hands. 1 John 5:4 says, “For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world- our faith.” In what ways does your faith help you overcome the world and live a Spirit filled life?

Joshua 10:28-43

1. Read Deuteronomy 7:1-6; 9:3-5; and 20:16-18. Why did the LORD command the Israelites to “drive out” and “destroy” the inhabitants of the land?

2. What spiritual lesson is seen here for the believer who desires to live a Spirit filled life? (see 2 Corinthians 7:1, Psalm 51:10, James 4:7-8. List any verses you find to support this idea)

3. Write out Joshua 10:42

Joshua 11

4. List the kings who are coming against Israel and what resources did they come with?

5. Read verse 6 and compare it with Psalm 20:7 and Isaiah 31:1. Why do you think the LORD may have required the hamstringing of the horses and the burning of the chariots?

Joshua 12

6. For context, see Deuteronomy 2:24 to 3:10. What similarities do you find between these battles and those of Joshua?

7. In what ways did the LORD exhibit His character through these battles?

8. Moses conquered two kings on the east side of the Jordan, while Joshua conquered 31 in the Promised Land. Remembering that Moses represents the Law and Joshua represents the work of Jesus in our lives, write what you think this says about the role of the law versus the work of the Spirit of Jesus in our lives. Use scripture references when possible.

Chapter 13

9. Now that Joshua is advancing in age, what instruction does God give him to do?

Chapters 14, 15, 16

For Personal Reflection:

The LORD outlines very specific details regarding the borders of the tribes and how the land was distributed to the people. Looking at Jeremiah 29:11 “For I know the thoughts that I think towards you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.” What borders has the Lord put in place for you personally that are helping you to grow spiritually?

Chapter 14

1. Chapter 14:2 states that the inheritance was determined by lot. See Proverbs 16:33. What does this tell you about who determined the distribution of the lands?

2. Caleb was given the city of Hebron, a city with a legacy of faith. Follow the legacy of the city by looking up the following scripture and writing down what you discover:

- a) Genesis 13:14-18

- b) Genesis 23

- c) Genesis 25:10

- d) Genesis 47:29-30 and 49:30-32

- e) Numbers 13:21-25

- f) 2 Samuel 2:1-3; 5:3

Chapter 15

3. Define the word "border"

4. Reading through verses 1 to 12, note the detail with which the LORD outlines the borders of the tribe of Judah. See Acts 17:26-27; Psalm 74:16-17; Psalm 16:5-6.

a) What does this detail reveal to us about the LORD?

b) How does this apply to living a Spirit filled life?

5. According to verse 63,

a) Who could Judah not drive out of the land?

b) Who finally conquered this city? (see 2 Samuel 5:6-10)

c) God had promised victory to the Israelites. Why do you think the tribe of Judah was unable to conquer Jerusalem?

Chapter 16

6. Read Genesis 48:1-5 and Hebrews 11:21. What information about Ephraim and Manasseh do we learn from these scriptures?

Chapters 17 and 18

For Personal Reflection:

The Children of Israel are finally home. Ephesians 2:19 says “Now therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” How does the truth that we are now citizens in the household of God impact your daily life?

1. Read Joshua 17:3-6.

- What unusual allotment took place?

- What truth does this reveal to us about the character of God? (give scripture references if possible)

2. Read the interaction between Joshua and the children of Joseph in Joshua 17:14-18.

- In verse 16 the children of Joseph explain why the land is not enough for them. What is the problem they see with the land?

- What was Joshua’s decision regarding their request?

3. In Genesis 49:10 we see that Shilo is another name for Messiah. Note that in Joshua 18:1 the tabernacle was set up in Shiloh, the new “capital” of Israel.

- Locate Shiloh on the map of the Promised Land. Where is it located in relation to all of the tribes of Israel?

- What truth does this portray about the Lord and His position with His people and in the Spirit filled life? (Use scripture references when possible)

4. Write out Joshua 18:3.

- How does Paul's prayer in Ephesians 1:15-21 apply to the concerns voiced by Joshua in 18:3?

- What spiritual principles must we employ to "possess the land" that the LORD God has given to us? (use scripture references when possible)

5. Joshua 18:10 says, "Joshua divided the land to the children of Israel according to their divisions (or portions)." How does this verse reflect the work of Jesus in our lives? (provide scripture references when possible)

6. Compare the map of God's intended inheritance for the children of Israel and the land they actually possessed. What do you see?

Extra Notes:

Chapters 19 and 20

For Personal Reflection:

Ephesians 1:13-14, "In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

Psalm 46:1, "God *is* our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble."

Meditate upon these truths that the LORD is our inheritance and our refuge. What do these truths mean to you?

1. According to Warren Wiersbe*, "Seven tribes still had to have their inheritance marked out for them, and apparently they were slow to respond to the challenge." Compare these tribes with Caleb (Joshua 14:6-15) and the daughters of Zelophehdad (Joshua 17:3-6). What do you see?

2. What did Caleb and the daughters of Zelophehdad have that these tribes lacked? (See Proverbs 12:27)

3. Verse 47 states that the tribe of Dan went beyond the borders given to them because they, "went up to fight against Leshem and took it..." Compare this with the response of the tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh in Joshua 17:16. What do you see?

4. The final inheritance went to Joshua in verses 49-50. How is the territory he received similar to that of Caleb (Joshua 14:12)?

- Does this reveal anything about the character of these two men? Explain your answer.

- Does this reveal anything about their faith? If so, what?

5. Cities of Refuge are outlined in Chapter 20. These cities offer a picture of salvation in Christ Jesus but also some contrasts. Complete the chart below as you contemplate the beautiful gift of salvation given to us through Christ Jesus.

Characteristics of a City of Refuge	Similarities to our Salvation in Jesus
	Consider the following verses: Hebrews 6:18; Romans 6:23; Acts 4:12; Matt 11:28-30; John 6:37; Deut 19:3
Characteristics of a City of Refuge	Differences from our Salvation in Jesus
	Consider the following verses: Hebrews 7:24-25; 1 John 1:9

*Warren, Wiersbe W. *The Wiersbe Bible Commentary: Old Testament*. Second ed., Colorado Springs, CO, David C Cook, 2007.

Chapters 21 and 22

For Personal Reflection:

Take a moment to consider all that the LORD has done for you in your faith journey. Write a prayer of praise to God, thanking Him and acknowledging all that He has done for you.

1. On the map of the Promised Land, see if you can identify the cities of the Levites. Does anything catch your attention regarding where the cities are located?

2. Slowly read through Joshua 21:43-45. List below all that these verses state that the LORD did for the children of Israel.

3. Read Joshua 22:1-9 and list 3 to 4 actions that Joshua displayed towards the two and a half departing tribes.

4. Read 22:10-29. Place yourself in the shoes of the men of Reuben, Gad, and the half tribe of Manasseh. What do you think may have been their emotions and thoughts at leaving the promised land? What evidence do you see in these verses to support your ideas?

Chapters 23 and 24

For Personal Reflection:

What truth regarding the Spirit filled life has the Lord impressed upon you through this study of Joshua?

As you conclude your study of Joshua, read over the final two chapters. Consider that Joshua knows he is “going the way of all the earth”. As the leader of Israel, he has final thoughts to share with the people before he dies.

1. What stands out to you the most regarding Joshua’s instructions to the people in Chapter 23?

2. Write out one verse that encourages you in your walk with the Lord. Write it out and pray through it as you meditate upon His word.

3. Chapter 24 gives a retelling of the history of Israel from God. List all of the “I” statements that God makes, all of the things He did for Israel.

4. What was Israel’s response to be considering all the the LORD had done for them? (verse 14)

Twelve Tribes Joshua 13-22 1400 BC

6 City-State Empires in 1406 BC

Amorite 15 city state Basham empire
King Jabin at Hazor
Hazor, Madon, Shimron, Achshaph, Dor:
Joshua 11:1-3,10; Judges 4:2

Amorite 60 city states Bashan empire
King Og of Bashan at Ashtaroth:
Deut 3:4; 4:47; Josh 12:4-5; 13:30-31; Neh 9:22;

Shechem/Shiloh city state empire
Being Hebrew friendly & joined Joshua
is confirmed in Amarna Letters below:
Shechem: Amarna Letters: EA246, 254, 244, 289
Shiloh: Amarna letter: EA288

Amorite city state empire
King Shihon at Heshbon:
Deut 4:47; Josh 12:2; 13:27; Neh 9:22;

Amorite Pentapolis of 112 city states
In hill country (Jerusalem is capital)
Jerusalem, Hebron, Jarmuth, Lachish, Eglon:
Josh 10:5

Philistine Pentapolis of city states
in coastal plain (Ashkelon is capital)
Gaza, Ashdod, Ashkelon, Gath, Ekron:
Ex 13:17-18; Deut 2:23;
Josh 11:22; 13:2-3;
Judges 1:18-19; 3:1-3

Philistine Pentapolis Coastal Plain Empire
1446-1356 BC

Amorite Pentapolis Hill Country Empire
of 112 city states
1406 BC

Amorite Pentapolis of 112 city states
1406 BC

Amorite Pentapolis of 112 city states
1406 BC

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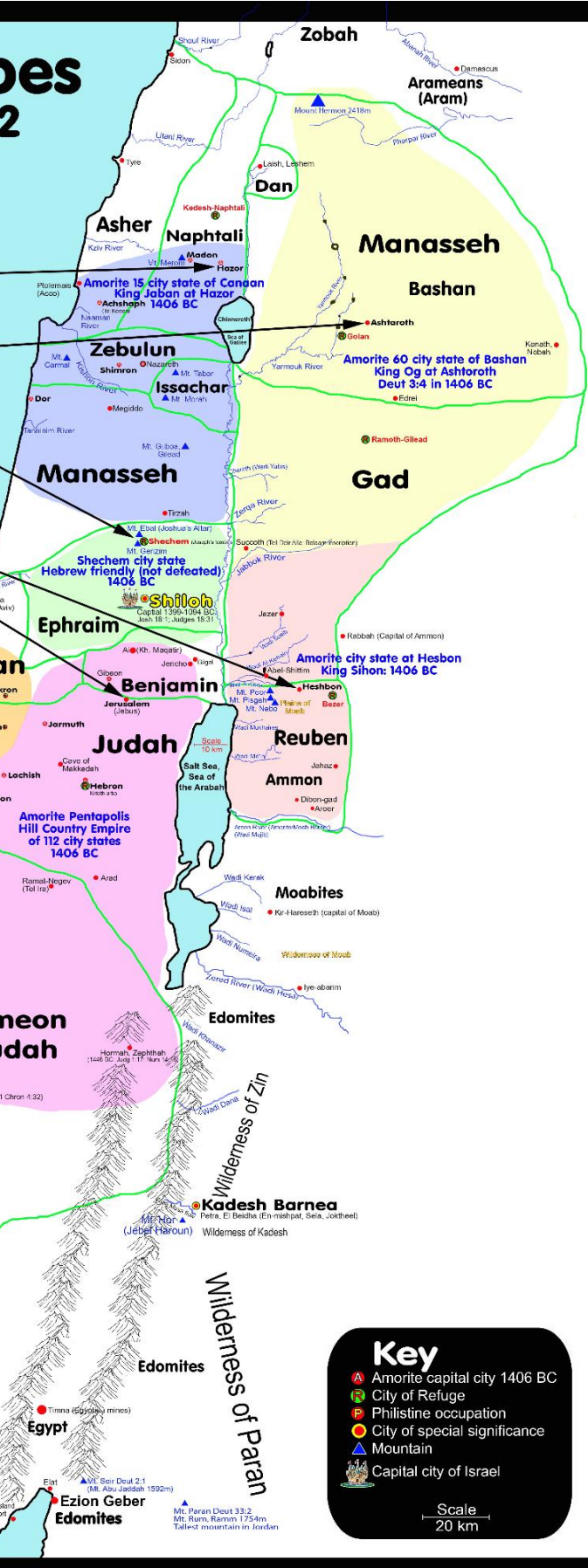
Amorite Pentapolis of 112 city states
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1406 BC



Key

- Amorite capital city 1406 BC
- City of Refuge
- Philistine occupation
- City of special significance
- Mountain
- Capital city of Israel

Scale
20 km

www.bible.ca/maps
Steve Rudd (Jan 2019)



<https://i.pinimg.com/564x/53/19/62/5319624fe1c932ed9e85e1855ae202f9.jpg>

Levitical cities & Cities of Refuge Joshua 21

Kohath

- Judah / Simeon: 9 cities (tribes joined) Josh 21:9-16
- Benjamin: 4 cities Josh 21:17-19
- Ephraim: 4 cities Josh 21:20-22 = Rimmon Josh 19:13 = Rimmono 1 Chron 6:77
- Dan: 4 cities Josh 21:23,24 = Madai 1 Chron 6:74
- Manasseh: 2 cities (west) Josh 21:25,26

Gershon

- Manasseh: 2 cities (east) Josh 21:27
- Issachar: 4 cities Josh 21:28,29
- Asher: 4 cities Josh 21:30,31
- Naphtali: 3 cities Josh 21:32,33

Merari

- Zebulun: 4 cities Josh 21:33,34
- Reuben: 4 cities Josh 21:36,37
- Gad: 4 cities Josh 21:38,39

