

FAITH TO ADVANCE GOD'S MISSION

Part 2 of Forward: Leadership Lessons from Joshua. Numbers 13-14.
Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. May 26, 2024.

FAITH IS NON-NEGOTIABLE

All of God's people need faith.

- We are saved through faith, follow Jesus by faith, and live lives of faith.

However, there are different kinds of faith.

- “Everyday” faith needs only the faith of a mustard seed.
- “Leadership” faith must be as big as a mountain.
- Leaders need deep, robust, unquenchable faith.

LEADERSHIP FAITH

Joshua models leadership faith for us to emulate.

- We need men and women who say yes to God even when he asks them to do hard things.

Numbers 13-14 provides an example of leadership faith.

- Moses sent the 12 spies into the Promised Land to scout it out.
- The spies were divided between men of faith and men of unbelief.
- Read Numbers 13-14.

JOSHUA'S LEADERSHIP FAITH

1. Leadership faith is God-exalting - Numbers 14:5-6.

Numbers 14:6 (CSB) Joshua son of Nun and Caleb son of Jephunneh, who were among those who scouted out the land, tore their clothes...

- Joshua and Caleb were devastated by the ten spies lack of faith and the mob's reaction. Why?
- Because it robbed God of his glory. It denied his power and faithfulness.
- We need leaders who glorify God at all costs. Their God is great and greatly to be praised.

2. Leadership faith is promise-driven - Numbers 14:7-8.

Numbers 14:8a (CSB) If the LORD is pleased with us, he will bring us into this land...

- Joshua believed they would take the Land, not because of his military skill or the size of his army.
- He believed the Land Promise - Genesis 12:7; 15:18; 17:18; 26:3-4; 28:13; Deuteronomy 30:4-5.
- The church needs leaders who stand on the promises of God. For example:
 - God will be our all-sufficient strength - 2 Corinthians 12:9
 - Everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord will be saved - Romans 10:13-15
 - Jesus will build his church - Matthew 16:18
 - He will shield us from Satan's attacks - Ephesians 6:10-18
 - Where God guides, he provides - Philippians 4:19
- We need leaders who are filled with courage and conviction because they believe in the promise-keeping God.

3. Leadership faith is fear-fighting - Numbers 14:9-10.

Numbers 14:9 (CSB) Only don't rebel against the LORD, and don't be afraid of the people of the land, for we will devour them.

- Leadership faith isn't the absence of fear; it's believing that advancing God's mission is more important than feeling comfortable.

- We need leaders who fear nothing but God and don't need the crowd's approval.

INACTION IS NOT AN OPTION

We need leaders who believe they were made for more than taking a back seat while the world goes to hell without Jesus.

- We have a mission to accomplish.
- It begins in our families and extends to the ends of the earth.

Do you feel the Lord calling you to some leadership responsibility?

- Pray this every day this week:

Heavenly Father, thank you for Jesus our Savior. Thank you that I have saving faith in him. If it is your will for me to lead somehow, please give me leadership faith and help me take the next step. Amen.”

- Please let me know how the Lord is leading you to lead.

SMALL GROUPS GUIDE

DIVE IN

- Review Peter's study guide. What were the highlights and key insights?
- What questions do you have about these insights? What answers can members of the group provide?
- Discuss the difference between "everyday" faith (Matthew 17:20-21) and "leadership" faith (Joshua 14:5-10). What examples come to mind? Where does a man say to Jesus, "I believe, help my unbelief"? Is this a good prayer for us also?
- The apostles faced great opposition in Jerusalem (Acts 4). How did they respond to their opponents? How did they pray (verses 23-31)? How does Acts 4 help us to understand leadership faith?
- What are the facets of faith Christian leaders today must develop? For example, not pleasing people, conviction, etc? Discuss examples.
- What can you and your group do to advance God's mission to make disciples of all nations?

PRAY TOGETHER

- Pray for the Lord to raise up men and women with "leadership" faith to advance his mission in our generation.
- Pray for national spiritual awakening in the USA and spiritual revival at the Cornerstone.
- Pray for the Cornerstone - people, leaders, health, and faithfulness.
- Pray for our families, communities, and nation.