

Leadership Challenges

Courageous Leadership – Part 4

Life Church St. Louis – September 27, 2020

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

James 1:2-3 (ESV) Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

James 5:15-16a (ESV) And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

1. _____ consequences of sin

Joshua 7:1 (ESV) But the people of Israel broke faith in regard to the devoted things, for Achan ... took some of the devoted things. And the anger of the LORD burned against the people of Israel.

Joshua 7:3-4 (ESV) And they returned to Joshua and said to him, “Do not have all the people go up, but let about two or three thousand men go up and attack Ai. Do not make the whole people toil up there, for they are few.” So about three thousand men went up ... And they fled before the men of Ai,

Joshua 7:6 (ESV) Then Joshua tore his clothes and fell to the earth on his face before the ark of the LORD until the evening, he and the elders of Israel. And they put dust on their heads.

Joshua 7:10-11 (ESV) The LORD said to Joshua, “Get up! Why have you fallen on your face? Israel has sinned; they have transgressed my covenant that I commanded them; they have taken some of the devoted things; they have stolen and lied and put them among their own belongings.

2. _____ consequences of sin

Joshua 7:12 (ESV) Therefore the people of Israel cannot stand before their enemies. They turn their backs before their enemies, because they have become devoted for destruction. I will be with you no more, unless you destroy the devoted things from among you.

Joshua 7:13 (ESV) Get up! Consecrate the people and say, ‘Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow; for thus says the LORD, God of Israel, “There are devoted things in your midst, O Israel. You cannot stand before your enemies until you take away the devoted things from among you.”

Joshua 7:15 (ESV) And he who is taken with the devoted things shall be burned with fire, he and all that he has, because he has transgressed the covenant of the LORD, and because he has done an outrageous thing in Israel.”

Joshua 7:25-26 (ESV) And Joshua said, “Why did you bring trouble on us? The LORD brings trouble on you today.” And all Israel stoned him with stones. They burned them with fire and stoned them with stones. ... Then the LORD turned from his burning anger.

Joshua 7:26 (ESV) And they raised over him a great heap of stones that remains to this day. Then the LORD turned from his burning anger.

3. _____ of removing sin

Joshua 8:1 (ESV) And the LORD said to Joshua, “Do not fear and do not be dismayed. Take all the fighting men with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, and his people, his city, and his land.

Joshua 8:2 (ESV) And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its livestock you shall take as plunder for yourselves. Lay an ambush against the city, behind it.”

Joshua 8:26, 28 (ESV) But Joshua did not draw back his hand with which he stretched out the javelin until he had devoted all the inhabitants of Ai to destruction. So Joshua burned Ai and made it forever a heap of ruins, as it is to this day.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Read Joshua 7-8).
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to attend the service next week.

How will I obey God’s Word this week? _____

Leadership Challenges Study Guide

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Intro. Why does God allow us to encounter trials and challenges in life (James 1:2-3)? How should we face them?

Intro. Why must we be careful to confess our sins when we pray for healing (James 5:15-16)?

Intro. In what ways is sin made light of or even glorified in our time?

1A. Why was God angry with all Israel because of the sin of one man (Joshua 7:1)?

1B. What were the mistakes made by the spies, Joshua and Israel's leaders in the attack on Ai (Joshua 7:3-4)?

1C. Why were Joshua and the leaders so alarmed at the defeat at Ai (Joshua 7:6)?

1D. What caused the Lord to reveal to Joshua the cause of their defeat (Joshua 7:10-11)?

1E. Why would abortion be the greatest sin that would put America under God's judgement (Jeremiah 19:5, Psalm 106:37-38, Genesis 9:6)?

2A. Explain why Israel was defeated at Ai according to Joshua 7:12.

2B. What does it mean to consecrate yourself to the Lord (Joshua 7:13)?

2C. Why was the judgement on Achan and his family so severe (Joshua 7:15, 24-26)?

2D. How does unconfessed sin open believers up to Satan's attacks today?

3A. Why did God encourage Joshua and tell him to take all the fighting men against Ai the second time (Joshua 8:1)?

3B. Why did God allow Israel to take the plunder from Ai, but not from Jericho (Joshua 8:2)?

3C. What are the two reasons that God commanded the Israelites to devote all the people of Canaan to destruction (Joshua 8:26, 28)?

3D. How must we deal with temptation in a spiritual sense today?