

Joshua 1:1-9

It's tempting to read Scripture for information. Rather than explain the Bible, let's insert ourselves into the stories.

Just before Moses died, Moses spoke to all of Israel: Then Moses called to Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you will go with this people into the land the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you will give it to them as an inheritance. "The LORD is the One Who goes ahead of you; He will be with you. He will not fail you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed." Deuteronomy 31:7-8

God followed up Moses' blessing with His words in Joshua 1:

- I am giving you every place where you set foot.
- No one will be able to stand against you.
- I will be with you, I won't desert you.
- Be brave and strong, for you will help your people.
- Carefully obey My instructions.
- Never stop talking about God's instructions.

Joshua is being reminded that the key to his success as a leader is his simply being a committed disciple (John Goldingay, 2011).

What stops me from trusting God?

What stands in the way of my prayer life?

What can I relinquish to make time for devoted prayer?

Next week: *Joshua 6:2-16*

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February 18, 2018

The 1st Sunday of Lent

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 15* (What is God saying to you?)

Monday: *Isaiah 6*

Tuesday: *Luke 9:57-62*

Wednesday: *Acts 9:1-30*

Thursday: *Colossians 1:24-29*

Friday: *Galatians 1:11-24*

Saturday: *2 Peter 1:1-11*

Almighty God, You Who call us to prayer, and Who offers Yourself to all who seek Your face, pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us today and deliver us from coldness of heart, wandering minds, and wrong desires. By the power of Your Spirit place within us steadfast love and devotion so we may worship and serve You with all our strength through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

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