



**CHRISTIAN
ENDEAVOUR**

for Christ and the Church



Conquering the Land

You'll never walk alone ...

A new leader for Israel

Deuteronomy 34 and Joshua 1:1-11

Teaching aim

To show that, if God gives us a job to do, He will be with us.

Setting the Scene

God had brought the Israelites out of Egypt under their leader, Moses. Moses led the people across the Red Sea, into the desert and on to the border of the Promised Land. Moses had sent twelve men to explore the land of Canaan but only two had come back with a good report saying that, with God's help, they could conquer the land. The rest were afraid and had no confidence in God. God would not let them enter the Promised Land because of their disobedience. He made them return to the desert until the generation of people who had rejected Him had died. Now, forty years later, they were once more approaching the Promised Land.

Death of Moses

God told Moses that he would not be allowed to enter the Promised Land because he had disobeyed Him in the presence of the Israelites at the waters of Meribah Kadesh in the Desert of Zin - see Numbers 20:7-12.

Read Deut 34:1-8. God showed Moses the Promised Land and then he died there on the mountain. God buried Moses and no-one knew where he was buried. The people of Israel had great respect for Moses but, by hiding him, God made sure that they would not worship him when he was dead.

Q. What does Deut 34:10-14 tell us about Moses?

- *There was no prophet like him in Israel.*
- He knew the Lord face to face.
- God sent him to do miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt
- *No-one had ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that He did.*

Joshua chosen as leader

Read Joshua 1:1-5.

Q. What do we learn about Joshua in verse 1? - *He was Moses' assistant.*

What did God tell Joshua to do in verse 2? - Get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land that He was about to give to the Israelites.

The Israelites, however, were going to have to work for the land. They were going to have to trust God, follow His instructions and go to war with the people of the land. If they did that, the Promised Land

would be theirs.

If you are a Christian, in order to get God's blessing on your life, you must follow His instructions.

Q. Where can we find God's instructions for us? - *The Bible*

Q. What three promises did God give to Joshua in verse 5?

- No-one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life.
- As I was with Moses, so I will be with you.
- *I will never leave you nor forsake you.*

God did not make Joshua the leader and then leave him. No, He promised to be with him and help him always.

God's command to Joshua

Having made Joshua the leader of Israel, God then gave him commands.

Q. What command did God give Joshua in verse 6? - *Be strong and courageous.*

Q. What other command did God give to Joshua in verse 7? - *Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left.*

The Book of the Law had already been written by Moses and the people were to use it to guide them day by day.

Q. How was Joshua to treat the Book of the Law (v8)?

- Meditate on it day and night
- *Be careful to obey it.*

Having received encouragement from God, Joshua ordered the officers of the people to get ready to invade the land.

Summing up

Joshua was chosen by God to succeed Moses as the leader of Israel. Having chosen Joshua, God promised to be with him and that no-one would be able to stand against him. However, Joshua had to be strong and courageous and he had to follow God's Law every day. If we are Christians, we must read the Bible and pray to God every day and He promises never to leave us or forsake us.

Resources

Memory verse

... Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

Activities

- Under 8s Activity Sheet "A new leader for Israel- 1".
- Over 8s Activity Sheet "A new leader for Israel- 2".

Prayer points

Thank God for:

- The promises He gives us in the Bible.

Pray for:

- Strength to witness to your peers about the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Missionaries known to you that God will give them wisdom for the job He has given them to do.

A new leader for Israel

True or False

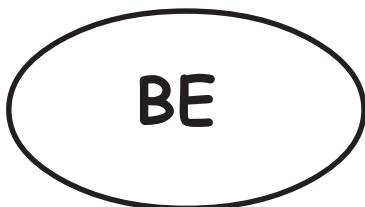
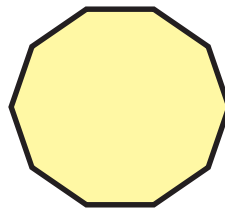
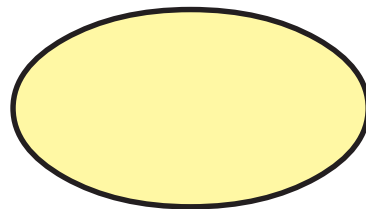
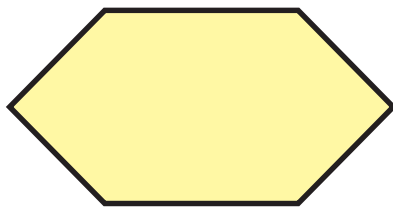
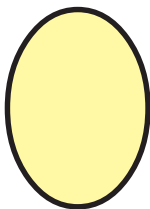
Colour in **T** if true or **F** if false.

1. Joshua led the people of Israel across the Red Sea.
2. Moses was allowed to lead the people into the Promised Land.
3. No-one knew where Moses was buried.
4. Joshua had been Moses' assistant.
5. God told Joshua that he would never forsake him.
6. The Book of the Law was written by Joshua.
7. Joshua was to meditate on the Law every day.
8. Joshua was a greater prophet than Moses.

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Match the Shapes

Copy the words in the bottom shapes into the top ones to find what God told Joshua.



A new leader for Israel

Unjumble

Unjumble the words in the sentences below.

1. God's instructions for us are found in the **ibleb**
2. God promised Joshua:
 - i No-one will be able to **asntd** up against you all the **sayd** of your life.
 - ii As I was with **ssoMe**, so I will be with you.
 - iii I will never **veale** you nor forsake you.
3. God told Joshua to be
 - i **rostng** and **aocouruges**.
 - ii careful to **oybe** all the law my **seantrv** Moses gave you.

Memory Verse

Starting with 'B' fill in the letters to find the memory verse.

