



**Loving Jesus, Loving People, Plowing a Counter-Culture**

**SERMON TEXT:** Joshua 13-19 (selected passages)

**KEY POINT:** The people of God are called to live in light of their inheritance in Christ.

**FOR LEADERS**

- **Attendance!:** We're asking ALL of our Communities to take attendance on Emergence Connect this season. Please be sure to make a note of who attended your group this week, and input that on your weekly event in EConnect! If you need any assistance with this we're happy to help!

**GETTING STARTED**

- [1] Communities Video:** Watch this week's community extras video!
- [2] Icebreaker:** What in the world does the holiday season look like for your family this year?
- [3] Opener:** What was one takeaway you had from the sermon this week?

**RETHINKING SUCCESS**

**Ask for someone to read Joshua 11:15 and 13:11.**

At first, reading these verses alongside one another seems puzzling. If Joshua "left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses," then why does God say "there remains yet very much land to possess"?

**Ask for someone to read Joshua 1:7-9.**

- [1]** According to this passage, what is Joshua's true mission, and how does it affect our understanding of Joshua's "success" in 11:15?

*Leaders: Recall how Steve noted that a very literal way to translate Joshua 11:15 is "Joshua did not turn aside from all that the LORD commanded Moses."*

- [2]** What is the true goal of a life lived in submission to Jesus, and how does that impact the way we think about success in both life and ministry?
- [3]** How does the goal of the Christian life align with your own personal goals?

**Ask for someone to read Matthew 6:25-34.**

- [4]** Why is seeking first God's kingdom and righteousness Jesus' answer to anxiety?
- [5]** Does your own personal level of anxiety line up with what Jesus says in this passage? Why or why not?

**LIVING AS IF**

Recall that Joshua 13:1 says that "very much land" remained to be taken. And yet, in these chapters, Joshua apportions the land to each tribe as if they already possess all of it. This is similar to what Christians sometimes call the "already/not yet." Assign different people to read the following pairs of verses, noting how the first of each speaks of something that God has already done, while the second (often from the same book) reminds us it has yet to be done fully: Romans 8:15 and Romans 8:23; Ephesians 1:7 and





**Loving Jesus, Loving People, Plowing a Counter-Culture**

Ephesians 4:30; 1 Corinthians 6:11 and 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Ephesians 2:5 and Romans 5:9; Ephesians 2:5-6 and 1 Corinthians 15:51-52.

**[6]** How does living in light of the *already/not yet* change the way a Christian lives?

**[7]** What are the dangers of emphasizing *only the already*, or *only the not yet*, to the exclusion of the other?

---

**A CONFIDENT FAITH**

---

Here we will look at two contrasting attitudes towards the work left to be done.

**Ask for someone to read Joshua 14:6-15.**

**[8]** Why do you think the text twice emphasizes that Caleb was a Kenizzite? (check out Genesis 15:18-20).

**[9]** In what ways does the text model Caleb’s faithfulness to God’s calling in his life?

**Ask for someone to read Joshua 17:14-18.**

**[10]** How do the people of Ephraim and Manasseh stand in contrast to Caleb’s example from chapter 14?

**[11]** What things in our own day represent “the work left to be done” for the church?

**[12]** What are some ways that we can model the faith of Caleb in our attitudes to the work left to be done?

---

**HE WILL LEAD YOU HOME**

---

**[13]** In the sermon, Steve noted that these chapters present to us the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham approximately 700 years earlier (e.g., Genesis 15:17-21), and as such they would have been tremendously important for the ancient Israelites. What should excite us about the inheritance that we have in Christ?

**Ask for someone to read John 14:1-7.**

**[14]** How can what Jesus says here sustain you personally in your daily walk with him?

---

**PRAYER**

---

**[1]** Pray that the Lord would give you a rich understanding and a deep thirst for your inheritance in Christ.

**[2]** Pray for contentment in following God’s commands for your life, and that he would help you see that as the standard for success, all the while trusting in his grace for forgiveness when you fall short.