

# CONTENTS

## Covenant Communities

(Studies in Joshua, Judges, Ezra, Nehemiah,  
Mark, 1—2 Peter)

Lessons Based on the International Sunday School Lessons Outlines

### Unit 1: Leaders in the Covenant Community

- 1. *Joshua: A Leader for the People* .....5
- 2. *Gideon: A Deliverer for the People* .....7
- 3. *Ezra: A Priest for the People*.....9
- 4. *Nehemiah: A Motivator for the People* ..... 11

### Unit 2: An Open Invitation to Covenant Living

- 5. *Looking for Jesus* ..... 13
- 6. *Recognizing Jesus* ..... 15
- 7. *Begging to Get In*.....17
- 8. *Where Your Treasure Is*..... 19

### Unit 3: The New Covenant Community

- 9. *The Beauty of Nonconformity* .....21
- 10. *Chosen to Proclaim* .....23
- 11. *Facing Opposition*.....25
- 12. *Pursuing Virtue* .....27
- 13. *The Best Is Yet to Come* .....29

### Special Features

- How to Use Lesson Leaflet* .....4
- Visitors List*.....31

### Lesson Writers:

David Shirk, Colorado Springs, CO (introductory anecdotes); Jonathan Brentner, North Liberty, IA (Bible material for lessons 1–2); Douglas Schmidt, Colorado Springs, CO (Bible material for lessons 3–4, 12–13); Diana Stucky, Colorado Springs, CO (Bible material for lessons 5–6); Richard Lentz, Niwot, CO (Bible material for lessons 7–8); Larry Crutchfield, Colorado Springs, CO (Bible material for lessons 9–11); Crystal Green, University Park, IL (other material for lessons 1–2); Christine Dallman, Everett, WA (other material for lessons 3–6); Richard Lentz, Niwot, CO (other material for lessons 7–8); Jan Johnson, Simi Valley, CA (other material for lessons 9–11); Victoria Johnson, Milwaukee, WI (other material for lessons 12–13).

---

# How to Use LESSON LEAFLET

*This booklet consists of one set of leaflets based on lessons in Comprehensive Bible Study, the adult Bible-in-Life quarterly. Each leaflet is perforated for easy removal. If you have a visitor, or if a regular student for some reason lacks a copy of Comprehensive Bible Study, give that*

*person the leaflet for the lesson to be studied. He or she will then be able to follow the lesson easily with the use of the summaries, printed Scripture passages, and discussion questions.*

*Lesson Leaflet enables you to make sure that everyone who shows up for your class can participate fully.*

# Joshua: A Leader for the People

**W**alt and John had brought a team back to the spot where an avalanche had injured nine climbers on three rope-teams.

John, the leader of this expedition, executed the traverse with great skill, and the others safely followed. From the summit, Walt understood that it takes courage to follow—sometimes, maybe even more courage than it takes to lead.

1. *What role does faith play in our trust of leadership? Explain your answer.*
2. *How did John show that he was a compassionate and worthy leader?*
3. *Explain this statement from our story: "Walt understood that it takes courage to follow—sometimes, maybe even more courage than it takes to lead."*

## GOD COMMISSIONS JOSHUA AS LEADER

### *Joshua 1:1-5*

1 Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

4 From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

4. *What was the significance of the Lord telling Joshua that Moses was dead?*
5. *What did God promise Joshua as he prepared to lead Israel across the Jordan River?*

## GOD ENCOURAGES JOSHUA

### *Joshua 1:6-9*

6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swear unto their fathers to give them.

7 Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it

to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper withersoever thou goest.

8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

9 Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

**6.** *How did the Lord encourage Joshua?*

**7.** *How was Joshua to regard the law that was given through Moses?*

#### **THE PEOPLE RESPOND TO JOSHUA** *Joshua 1:10-11, 16-17*

10 Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,

11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it. . . .

16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

17 According as we hearkened

unto Moses in all things, so will we hearken unto thee: only the LORD thy God be with thee, as he was with Moses.

**8.** *How did the people respond to Joshua as their new leader?*

#### **A WOMAN CALLED MOSES**

**9.** *How similar are Harriet Tubman's and Moses' leadership styles? How are they different?*

**10.** *Name some things that made Tubman's followers courageous. Are you a courageous follower of a godly leader yourself, or do you do more complaining than following? Explain.*

**11.** *Finish this sentence: "Because I read this about obeying godly leadership, I think God is telling me to . . ."*

#### **BE COURAGEOUS AND OBEDIENT**

► *Briefly write how you can recommit your services to your pastor or any other godly leaders. This won't be a one-time experience—take your time and recommit daily if possible.*

---

#### **KEY VERSE**

*Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest. —Joshua 1:9*

---

*Thanks for Visiting Our Class Today!*