

Fuel the Fire Leaders April 2018 Choose Your Reality Increase Your Influence

Introductions

Set the context of the story of Joshua 1

- Moses is dead - Great deliverer, great comfort to the people, everything was okay when Moses was around, he spoke to God face to face, numerous miracles.
 - But he never got the people into the promised land
 - He brought them out but not in
 - 40 years of walking around in the wilderness like as a nomad people
 - Moses is now dead and the season is changing
- In change of seasons, choosing your reality is critical to your fruitfulness in the next season
- Many do not survive a seasonal shift because they are still living in a false reality

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, [2] "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. [3] Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. [4] From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. [5] No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. [6] Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. [7] Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. [8] This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. [9] Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." [10] And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, [11] "Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, 'Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.'" **Joshua 1:1-11 ESV**

1. A New Season - Moses my servant is dead

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, [2] "Moses my servant is dead. Joshua 1.1-2a

- Old season is over - Moses is dead
- Perhaps everything looked the same - atmosphere the same, people the same, desert the same, food the same, 40 years of the same!!
- Just Moses missing - a void, a fear, what now?

“Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. [19] See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. **Isaiah 43:18-19**

2. Arise, go over - Change posture and move

Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. [3] Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. [4] From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. **Joshua 1.2b-4**

- Arise, go over this Jordan
- You and all the people
- Into the land I am giving
- Every place your foot treads - In other words you won't get the promise staying in the same place, doing the same stuff - something has to change
- Mindset has to change, comfort zones are left behind,
- The familiar has to be departed from
- The unknown has to be embraced

3. Divine Assistance - No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life.

No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. **Joshua 1.5**

- A promise
- No one will be able to stand against you all the days of your life
- Just as I was with Moses I will be with you
- I will not leave you or forsake
- This is a revelation of the Father heart of God - He is relational he is committed and he is with Joshua and he is with us!

4. Be strong and courageous - A command

Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. [7] Only be strong and very courageous..

Joshua 1.6-7a

- Be strong and courageous - Strength and courage a choice!
- For you shall cause these people to inherit the land.. - God uses us
 - Joshua your strength and courage will inspire strength and courage in others
 - Filling your space and living large in God's promise causes us to be magnetic
- Only be strong and very courageous

5. Follow God's Plan - Being careful to do according to all the law

being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. [8] This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do

according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. **Joshua 1.7b-8**

- Be careful to do - We must live according to the Bible the Word of God
- Obeying God's Word brings us success - Good success wherever we go
- Do not let this Book depart from your mouth - Speak what God says
- Meditate on it day and night - Fill your thoughts and imagination with it
- Be careful to do everything written in it
- You will make your way prosperous and have good success

6. Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." **Joshua 1.9**

- Be strong and courageous - repeated again it's a choice, it's important
 - Perhaps because he will feel weary and courage may be challenged
- Do not be frightened - Fear will come, choose faith not fear
- Do not be dismayed - 'concern and distress' - Do not be concerned or distressed

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **Ephesians 6:10**

7. Get Ready, Get set, Go - Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over

And Joshua commanded the officers of the people, [11] "Pass through the midst of the camp and command the people, 'Prepare your provisions, for within three days you are to pass over this Jordan to go in to take possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving you to possess.'" **Joshua 1.10,11**

- Joshua was quick to obey - He didn't waste time, he didn't stress or call a month of meetings
- Prepare your provisions, three days we will cross over the Jordan - Pace setter
- The Holy Spirit is calling the Church to keep pace with him

Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit. **Galatians 5:25**

Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. **Matthew 11.29**

One Story and Three questions

- During April There was about a 10 day period of time that I felt real pressure on my emotions - That's a nice way to say that I felt extremely low
- It was interesting because whenever I was working, preaching or in meetings I was experiencing really strong clarity, strength and ability to do my work
- But when I was alone or with the family I was really low in my emotions
- One of those day after dinner I was lying on the bed for a few minutes before I had to go out to a meeting
- I felt a strong impression to go and ask Esther and the children too pray with me
 - I actually felt the Lord speak and say that this isn't just tiredness or due to natural circumstance but it is an attack from the enemy

- As we gathered around some worship and the kids and Esther prayed for me - the whole atmosphere began to change and hope began to rise in my heart

The next morning in the Prayer Hub

I saw picture of people running to All Nations from all over the world with great joy, excitement and anticipation.

Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there. Bring down your warriors, Lord! **Joel 3:11**

- Also felt the Lord say the enemy has been trying to restrict your breathing your movement but it's a false reality.
- You are in a spacious place and the boundary lines have fallen for us in pleasant places.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. **Psalm 16:6**

He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me. **Psalm 18:19**

If the enemy can make you believe the false reality it will actually become your reality because your thoughts, words, response and lifestyle will create it
You can choose where you live

1. What do you see

What you see determines what you walk in

You will never rise above the dominant images in your mind

Reality Is Set by God

- God's Word
- His promises in scripture
- Prophetic words he has given to you
- Meeting him every day and living from the supernatural strength he supplies
- If you believe the false reality - you will live to the low standard of that reality, anxiety, sin, poor choices made from fear and not faith

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance. **Psalm 16:6**

He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me. **Psalm 18:19**

For we live by faith, not by sight. **2 Corinthians 5:7**

Eyes to see what God has said and the true spiritual freedom we have.

- This will increase our magnetism and drawing ability.

2. Are you living by Faith or by Fear

And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 ESV

- Faith is the currency of heaven - It attracts heaven's help, resources, revelation and favour

Fear will attract the opposite - Your conversation and words will create your world by the fear and anxiety

Be strong and courageous - Do not be afraid, do not be dismayed

- for you shall cause this people to inherit the land

3. Are you living Full

The anointing is magnetic

[20] But you have been anointed by the Holy One, and you all have knowledge.

[27] But the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true, and is no lie—just as it has taught you, abide in him. **1 John 2:20,27 ESV**

- You can increase that magnetism by living into the fullness of all Christ has for you. Live in the height of your anointing, not in the low place.
- You can diminish that magnetism by living to the reality around you - fear, anxiety and natural things
- People are attracted to the anointing when it manifests - Anointing only manifests in a place of faith and living in the reality of the Kingdom of God - This will increase the magnetism
- The enemy wants to diminish your voice, your strength and your identity
- Many Christian Leaders don't even know who they are because they have never really stood up into the fullness of their identity and call

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Romans 15:13**

Conclusion

because a great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me. [13] Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. [14] Do everything in love. **1 Corinthians 16:9**

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. [14] Do everything in love. **1 Corinthians 16:13-14**

