

What's Next: Stepping Into the Promised Land of Our Own

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Scripture Reading: Joshua 1

We have all been there. Standing on the precipice of something new, something unknown, with a heart full of both anticipation and trepidation. It is the feeling of the day you graduate, the first day at a new job, the moment you say “yes” to a life-altering opportunity. It is the story of Joshua taking the reins from Moses and facing the daunting task of leading the Israelites into the Promised Land.

Moses, the legendary leader, was gone. His absence, deeply felt, left a void and a question that hung heavy in the air: “What’s next?” It is a question that resonates through millennia, a question we ask ourselves in moments of transition and change.

Imagine the weight on Joshua’s shoulders. He was tasked with filling shoes that seemed impossible to fill, leading a nation through unfamiliar territory towards a future promised but unseen. The uncertainty could have been paralysing, the fear crippling. Yet, at that pivotal moment, God spoke words that have resonated through time, words that serve as a beacon for us all: **“Be strong and of a good courage”** (Joshua 1:9).

These words were not just a command; they were an antidote to fear. God was not asking Joshua to ignore his anxieties; He was acknowledging them while simultaneously offering strength and courage as companions on the journey ahead.

Stepping into the “what’s next” of our lives requires that same strength and courage. It demands we acknowledge our fears, but not let them dictate our direction. It requires faith – **not a blind faith, but a faith rooted in the belief that we are equipped, even in our human frailty, to face the unknown.**

The Promised Land, for Joshua and us, represents the dreams we hold, the goals we strive for, and the future we envision. It is not a place devoid of challenges or obstacles. Just as the Israelites faced battles and setbacks, we too will encounter roadblocks on our journey.

But the message of Joshua’s story, the timeless message whispered to our hearts, is this: We are not alone. When fear threatens to overwhelm us, when the path ahead seems shrouded in mist, we can cling to the words “Be strong and of a good courage.” We can step forward, knowing that strength is found not just in ourselves, but in the One who walks beside us, leading us towards the promise of **“What’s Next.”**