

Gospel Hotspots

Week Two: New Ground

Flashback (10 min)

- What did you experience with God this week?
- In the last few days, did you have the opportunity to share an experience with God and with someone close to you who doesn't know Jesus yet? What did you do? (talk about your faith, pray for them, help them practically)
- Is there an area of your life where you need God's help?
- Pray together: give thanks for your experiences, ask God for help where you need it.

Bible Study (15-20 min)

Joshua 1

- Pray together: that you would discover new aspects of God today and that your relationship with him would be strengthened and deepened.
- On your own: read the passage silently.
 - What words or phrases stick out?
- One person reads the passage out loud.
- Everyone by themselves:
 - What words or phrases stick out now? Are there any differences to what you noticed before?
 - Why do you feel drawn to those words or phrases?
 - What could God be telling you?
- Share in the group.

Specific Questions & Action Steps (20 min)

- After 40 years in the desert, the people of Israel are about to cross the river Jordan and conquer the Promised Land. God keeps his promise and they obtain their land. When have you experienced that God keeps his promises? Give thanks for specific experiences.
- Are you facing new ground like the Israelites? What do you need from God (to conquer it?) What does he promise you in his word? What is your responsibility that these promises come true (see Joshua 1)?
- What does God's challenge in Joshua 1:8 ("Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips.") mean to you?
- What verses do you find encouraging? In groups of 2-3, take these promises to God in prayer and proclaim them over your life.

Gospel Hotspots

Week Two: New Ground



Scripture Comments

Jews read the Bible out loud because they believe that the word should not cease coming from their lips (in reference to Joshua 1:8).

The Old Testament is referred to as “the Law” (see Matthew 12:5 and John 10:34).

God’s word does not solely consist of words but it always contains the reality of his kingdom. It contains transformational power! (see Hebrews 4:12a) Jesus compares the Word of God to seeds being planted in Luke 8:4-15. If we hear it (example from our own lips) and hold on to it with perseverance it will bring fruit. This means it will release faith, certainty, power and God’s plans in our life! (Luke 8:15)

One way you can practice holding onto God’s Word is by reading the verses you wrote down that encourage you out loud each morning when you wake up. Additional scriptures: Psalm 23:1-5; Deuteronomy 31:8; Jeremiah 29:11; Joshua 1:9; Psalm 27:1.