



COMING EVENTS

**What's
coming up
in middle
school @NCC:**

- **Jump 6 • Monday, October 7** Buckle up! Pastor Dan is taking us on a trip to The Great Wall of China tonight! Be sure to bring your friends and some change because checkers will be open! Lower Court from 7-9pm.
- **Vertical Edge • October 8, Core Group Reveal.** Meet us on campus to find out who's Core Group you're in! We're starting the 2 Timothy series

october 5/6 lesson

Series: The King's Servants

Lesson: Using the Book

Scripture: *Joshua 1:6-9; 1 John 2:24-25*

Key Concept: The importance of Scripture for servant leaders.

Chew Time

1) Bible Reading Time (Chew Time):

Luke 2:1-24



Lesson Intro

Whenever you build a model car, it is important that you read and follow the instructions. When you want to know how to work your new DVD player, it is important that you read and follow the instructions. When you buy a new computer program and need to know how to run it...you guessed it, it is important to read and follow the instructions. Instructions are an important part of our lives. They are how we can get the necessary information to perform tasks that are new to us.

To be a servant leader, we also need some instruction. And where is the best place to get those instructions? The Bible. It is God's own Word given to us so that we can be the types of servants that He wants us to be. It is important for servant leaders to know what Scripture says. When we know what it says, it is easier to know what to do to serve.

Background info on the book of JOSHUA

What characteristics are important in leaders? If you were chosen to be captain of the football team, head cheerleader, or student body president, what would most help you succeed? Strength? Intelligence? Cleverness? Good people skills? Good looks? Enthusiasm? Commitment?



God called Joshua to be Israel's leader as the Israelites were about to enter the Promised Land. Joshua was unsure about his own leadership capabilities, but God told him, *"No one will be able to stand their ground against you as long as you live. For I will be with you as I was with Moses. I will not fail you or abandon you"* (1:5). Then God explained the qualities Joshua needed in order to be a good leader for his people.

The first quality was obedience to God's law: *"Be strong and very courageous. Obey all the laws Moses gave you. Do not turn away from them, and you will be successful in everything you do"* (1:7).

The second leadership quality was total dependence on God. God instructed Joshua to study and meditate on God's Word day and night. There he would learn how God had taken care of Israel in the past; then Joshua could continue to depend on him and lead his people to do the same.

Entering the Promised Land

The story of Joshua begins in the Israelites' camp on the border of the Promised Land. After wandering for forty years in the wilderness, a new generation is ready to enter Canaan. But first God has to prepare both Joshua and the nation by teaching them the importance of courageous and consistent faith. The nation then miraculously crosses the Jordan River to begin the long-awaited conquest of the Promised Land.

2) Read Joshua 1:6-9

This passage of Scripture lets us see how important it is to know and follow the Word of God. It helps us to know that when we know the Scriptures, we don't have to be afraid and that we can be encouraged to know that God is going to be with us in whatever we do.



† *⁶ “Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. ⁸ Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. ⁹ This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”*

- A. What is something that you are afraid of?
- B. When it comes to your spiritual walk, what are some fears or concerns that you have?
- C. Have you ever been in a situation where you wish you knew Scripture better?
- D. These verses say three times to “*Be strong and courageous.*” Is it easy to be strong and courageous when you talk to your non-Christian friends about God? Why or why not?



- E. Which of these commands that God gave to Joshua would be the hardest for you to follow or accept? Why?
- F. What is the result when we commit to studying the Word of God?

3) Read 1 John 2:24-25

✝ *²⁴ So you must remain faithful to what you have been taught from the beginning. If you do, you will remain in fellowship with the Son and with the Father. ²⁵ And in this fellowship we enjoy the eternal life he promised us.*

This passage refers to “what you have been taught in the beginning,” and refers to the gospel. At the time that this was written, they didn’t have nice fancy Bibles to carry around with them and read on their own. Christians had to rely on what they have heard and been taught.

- A. Why do you study for a test in school?
- B. What happens when you don’t study for a test?
- C. How do you feel when a teacher tells you that you are going to have a “pop quiz”?
- D. In this passage, John wants his readers to be sure that they remember what they have learned and that it remains in them. Why?
- E. What is the promise that we are given in these two verses? *(That we will remain in the Son and in the Father and eternal life.)*
- F. What do these verses say to servant leaders? *(That it is important for us to study and know the Word of God so that we will continue to live the life that He has called us to live. That when we keep the Word in our lives, we can and will receive eternal life. When we realize this, we are better able to serve and lead others to a relationship with Jesus Christ.)*
- G. Here is something to think about. How much time do you spend in the Word per week? How does this compare to the time that you spend watching TV or playing video games?

