

## LOVE

**A new commandment I give to you, that you love *one another*... (John 13:34)**

- *Internal*: How was your week...anything new?! How is your walk with the Lord? Did you have any opportunities to share the Lord with anyone?
- *External*: Is there any individual or family who is struggling or needs encouragement? How can we pray, encourage, and show love to them?

## TRUTH

**Let the word of God dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing *one another*... (Col. 3:16)**

1. When you reflect on the message from Sunday, what most resonated with you?  
[Dialogue]
2. Before we begin to read chapter 5, let's together recap what has happened in Joshua thus far.  
[Dialogue]
3. As Israel crosses the Jordan, what is beginning to happen to Israel's adversaries?  
All the kings and inhabitants of the land were deflated and fearful from what was unfolding before them. Verse one affirms what Rahab said to the spies in chapter 2:8-10 and it also affirms what the Lord said in 4:24, "so that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the Lord is mighty, that you may fear the Lord your God forever."
4. Israel has been wandering for 40 years in the desert and is now officially in the Promised Land. According to this text, what is the Lord's next priority for Israel? Why this?  
Ritual renewal; namely, circumcision and the celebration of the Passover. The previous generation of males had died in the wilderness and all the males that were born in that period of time had not yet been circumcised. Re-establishing these patterns of covenant and remembrance were clearly very important to the Lord.
5. How were these rituals or rites carried into the New Testament and affirmed by Jesus for us to practice today in the church?  
Circumcision and the celebration of the Passover are still symbolized today in our participation in baptism and the Lord's Supper. Both of these significant events parallel the former as signs of covenant relationship and gospel proclamation. Baptism acts as a sign and a seal of the covenant and the Lord's Supper celebrates redemption from the bondage of sin through the sacrificial death of the Lamb of God.
6. Verses 10-12 indicate that the people of Israel ate of the produce of the land, and afterwards the provision of manna ceased. Why is this significant?  
The manna (a type of grain) was provided by the Lord for years during Israel's wandering. The fact Israel ate from the rich land and manna was no longer indicated that the status of Israel had

changed. God's promise and blessing was upon them as they partook of the Land flowing with milk and honey.

7. As you read about the commander of the Lord's army, does the "commander" answer Joshua's question? How does Joshua Respond? What story comes to mind in the life of Moses that parallels this story?

Joshua responds just like every person in the Bible who experiences the holiness of God, he falls on his face in worship. This story parallels well the story of Moses and the burning bush. There, Moses too is instructed to remove his sandals because the place he was standing was holy ground.

8. What do we learn about God when we read about the Fall of Jericho and the treatment of Rahab?
- God is serious about sin (Executed swift judgement for the sin that continued to plague Jericho)
  - God's plan might seem wild and foolish to us, but His plan is the right plan (Trust/faith is required)
  - God keeps His promises (Provided land for Israel and protected Rahab)
9. How might you share this passage/truth with someone else? A child? A family member?
- [Dialogue]

## GREAT COMMISSION

**Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... (Matt. 28:19-20)**

- Is there anyone that needs an invite to our church or this group?
- Is there anyone you know who needs to hear what we learned today in God's word?
- Does anyone here need a "refresher" on how to share the gospel?

## CONFESSION/PRAYER/REPENTANCE

**But exhort *one another* every day, as long as it is called "today,"... (Heb. 3:12-14)**

- Confession is agreeing with God about our sin according to the Scriptures. Without getting too specific, is there anything you want to confess before the group? [apathy, idolatry, selfishness, jealousy, anger, envy]
- Let's pray, asking God to help us apply his word to our lives, putting to death sinful desires.

## HOMEWORK:

- **Memorize our weekly "Fighter Verse"** - Hebrews 12:1
- **Listen to the book of Joshua over the next few weeks (approx. 1hr 42 mins, due 3/5).**

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Sources:

- ESV Study Bible (Crossway)