

20/20: Honoring the Past by Preparing for the Future



Week Three: Prepare for the Future

Overview

In our third installment in this series, we discussed the idea of “Preparing for the Future.” We looked at the Israelites’ moment of pause to circumcise and commission the new generation before they stepped into battle in Jericho. This was truly a moment of transition for the people of God, as they left behind all they’d known before and were about to experience the new thing that God had in store for them. Maybe you find yourself in a similar situation, in which you feel like you’re on the verge of something new, but you’re just not quite there yet. We read that the people of Israel needed to commit themselves to God once again before they stepped into the Promised Land. You may need to make a similar commitment as well, which we framed through the notion of “preparing for the future by offering God the present.”

As you begin this session – pray for God to reveal to you spaces in your life in which he may be calling you into something new, calling you to give more of yourself to him, or calling you to let go of something that you’re holding too tightly on to.

Reading and Discussion

Use this scripture and these questions to frame your discussion as a group.

Read Joshua 5:1-12 together as a group.

1. Upon reading, what sticks out in this passage to you? Does anything resonate with where you find yourself today?
2. Through this text, we determined that the best way to prepare for the future is to offer God the present. What are some ways in which you've tried to prepare for the future? Were they healthy or unhealthy?
3. On Sunday, we learned that the Israelites had to leave behind the manna in order to eat the new fruit of the land of Canaan. Have you ever had to give something up in order to step into something new? Do you feel like God could be calling you to do something like that now? Share, if you feel comfortable.
4. What are some concrete ways that you can begin offering the present to God? Think of the ways in which you spend your time, or where your priorities currently seem to lie. What changes or adjustments could you make to give God more of your day to day life?