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



Week Four: Trust God and Move

Overview

Taking a fortified city with a small army is no easy feat. Unless, of course, God is on your side. In our message this week, we learned how God led the way for the people of Israel to defeat the people of Jericho – though he did so in an unexpected way. God's commands, methods, and actions don't always make sense. We're limited in our perspective, and sometimes we can even allow our own clouded perspective to cause us to doubt or disobey what God has commanded of us. We saw this clearly in the story of Achan, who disobeyed God and stole some valuable items from the city. Through theses stories, we learned that "Obeying is believing." If we love and trust God, we'll obey him, even when his commands don't make sense.

Before you begin, pray and ask God for great faith to obey him...even when it doesn't make sense. Ask that he would grant you a heart and desire to please and serve him faithfully.

Reading and Discussion

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

Read Joshua 6:1-7 together as a group.

- 1. What in this passage sticks out to you? What about God's commands to the Israelites seem odd?
- 2. In his message on Sunday, George noted that "obeying is believing." We can measure our faith in God by the measure to which we obey him. Has there ever been a time in your life in which you felt that one of God's commands didn't make sense to you, or was hard for you to obey? Share, if you feel comfortable.
- 3. Even though we highly value obeying God's commands...we often fall short. In those moments, we know that we're held by Jesus' grace and love if we accept it. Is it hard for you to accept grace when you do fall short? Why or why not?
- 4. What is one way in which God may be calling you into greater obedience? How can you take the steps to follow him in that obedience. Share with the group, if you feel comfortable, and then pray for one another to be strengthened in obedience.