



Leaning towards Tomorrow Keith Taylor Sept 26/27, 2020

The story of the children of Israel is one of living in between. This middle space is where we live much of our lives. Joshua experienced all 40 years in the desert before God appointed him to lead the people into the Promised Land. What does God say to Joshua that will help them to step into their promised future?

What Must Be True If We Are to Be Successful When We Are Living In Between?

1. Be clear on your core convictions

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. Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Joshua 1:7b-8 (NLT)

Having a conviction is being so thoroughly convinced that something is absolutely true that you take a stand for it regardless of the consequences. - Josh McDowell

2. Be assured of God's dependability

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. Joshua 1:9 (NLT)

- **He promises His power:** *No one will be able to stand against you as long as you live. I will be with you, just as I was with Moses. Joshua 1:5a (CSB)*
- **He offers protection:** *I will not leave you or abandon you. Joshua 1:5b (CSB)*
- **He promises provision:** *...then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. Joshua 1:8b (NLT)*
- **He guarantees His presence:** *For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9b (NLT)*

3. Be committed to your decisions

But Jesus told him, "Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God." Luke 9:62 (NLT)

Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do amazing things among you." Joshua 3:5 (NIV)

For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever. 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 (NLT)

But if you refuse to serve the LORD, then choose today whom you will serve. Would you prefer the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates? Or will it be the gods of the Amorites in whose land you now live? But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD. Joshua 24:15 (NLT)

Discussion Questions:

1. Name one of your personal or familial "Core Convictions."
2. What are some other verses or stories in the Bible that remind you that God is with you, even in challenging or difficult times?
3. Share an example of a time when you stayed committed to a decision through the 'in-between' stages, and it paid off.