SEEING GOD IN LIFE'S BATTLES

Message 1

February 14-15, 2009

Getting the Job Done

This text reminds believers, through Joshua's conversation with God, of **four provisions** that are important in getting the job done.

 Provision #1 - A CLEAR PICTURE OF WHERE GOD WANTS YOU TO GO: A PURPOSE, A PROMISE OR A VISION

After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ²"Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. ³I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. Joshua 1:1-4 (New International Version)

And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, ¹¹none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt, to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land, ¹²and for all the mighty power and all the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of all Israel. Deuteronomy 34:10-12 (English Standard Version)

Provision #2 - THE ASSURANCE OF GOD'S PRESENCE, WHICH GIVES
YOU THE COURAGE TO ACT

No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. ⁶ "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. ⁷Be strong and very courageous . . . ⁹Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." ¹⁰So Joshua ordered the officers of the people: ¹¹ "Go through the camp and tell the people, 'Get your supplies ready. Three days from now you will cross the Jordan here to go in and take possession of the land the LORD your God is giving you for your own.' " Joshua 1:5-7a, 9-11 (NIV)

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." ⁶So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" Hebrews 13:5-6 (ESV)

Courage = believers acting in obedience to God in spite of their fears

Provision #3 - THE SUCCESS THAT COMES FROM REGULAR, CAREFUL ATTENTION TO GOD'S WORD

Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. ⁸Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:7-8 (NIV)

Formula for obedience = constant, careful study of God's Word

Meditation = to reflect, to think about, to keep in mind

But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1:2 (NIV)

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NIV)

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15 (NIV)

Only let us live up to what we have already attained. Philippians 3:16 (NIV)

• Provision #4 - **UNITY** AMONG GOD'S PEOPLE

But to the Reubenites, the Gadites and the half-tribe of Manasseh, Joshua said, ¹³"Remember the command that Moses the servant of the LORD gave you: 'The LORD your God is giving you rest and has granted you this land.' ¹⁴ Your wives, your children and your livestock may stay in the land that Moses gave you east of the Jordan, but all your fighting men, fully armed, must cross over ahead of your brothers. You are to help your brothers ¹⁵until the LORD gives them rest, as he has done for you, and until they too have taken possession of the land that the LORD your God is giving them. After that, you may go back and occupy your own land, which Moses the servant of the LORD gave you east of the Jordan toward the sunrise." ¹⁶Then they answered Joshua, "Whatever you have commanded us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go . . ." Joshua 1:12-16 (NIV)

See Numbers 32.