



## Possessing The “Cities” of Your Life – Message 5

### Announcements

**Big Church Night Out Featuring Crowder** // Thursday, October 11 // 7PM (Doors open at 6PM for General Admission). You won't want to miss this evening of praise featuring Crowder, Jordan Feliz, Sarah Reeves, and Jamison Strain. Tickets are on sale now at [ChurchoftheKing.com/crowder](http://ChurchoftheKing.com/crowder).

### Warm-up

- When facing a challenge, how do you know when you're acting in faith or when you're acting out of your own strength?
- Can you name any promise in God's Word that has given you courage and confidence?

### Word and Application

Join us in the 5th and final week of the series, *Joshua: Possessing Your Tomorrows*. Last week we discussed how remembering what God has done in our past, can catapult us into our tomorrow. As we reflect on the faithfulness of God, the obstacles of fear and stagnation are obliterated.

We come to a point in Joshua, Chapter 3, where Joshua and the Israelites are on the brink of taking the city of Jericho. In today's lesson, we learn of some key preparation needed before we can *possess the cities* in our own lives. Your *city* can be a dream God has given you, a new beginning, a restored relationship, or a life free from illness, addiction, and fear. Whatever it is, we have to recognize that it is by *His* power that we are able to possess the *city*.

- **Read Joshua 3:15-17**, the basis of today's lesson. Now read **Exodus 3:3-6**.
- What is the significance of God's command to both Moses and Joshua to remove their sandals?
- Describe the change between both Joshua and Moses' attitude at the beginning of the passage and their attitude at the end of the passage. What attributed to that change?
- In which way(s) might you be too casual with your relationship with God?
- **Read Ezekiel 39:7-29, 1 Samuel 2:2, and 1 Peter 1:15-16**. What are some ways we can increase our reverence of God?

### Three Key Observations of Joshua's Approach to Jericho

1. God's Personal Appearance

- When we are on the brink of taking territory, God often brings instruction.
  - **Read John 14:26 and Jeremiah 16:21.** Why do we sometimes spurn the instruction of God?
- When we are preparing to possess our tomorrow, God allows what is in the heart to come out.
  - With which statement do you find yourself agreeing most:
    1. God expects more of me than I can handle.
    2. I can't wait to find out what God has planned next for me.
    3. I am more prepared today than I was in the past for whatever comes my way.
    4. I am fearful of attempting things beyond my ability.
  - Why did you choose the statement you did? Did you find yourself agreeing with more than one statement?

2. **Joshua's Misalignment**

In **Joshua 5:13-14**, Joshua was prepared to invade and take over Jericho; however, a sword-drawn soldier stood in his path. In this passage, how does Joshua display the strength and courage God had earlier commanded of him?

- **Read Numbers 22:21-31.** What does this passage have in common with **Joshua 5:13-14**?
- Describe a time when you missed a warning sign on the road. Describe a time when you missed a warning sign from the Lord.
- What practical steps can we take to avoid missing God's instruction for us?

3. **Joshua's Realignment**

**Read Joshua 5:14-15** again. After recognizing God's authority, Joshua re-positioned himself before the Lord and asked, "What has my lord to say to his servant?" When was the last time you asked God to speak to you?

- **Read James 4:10, 2 Chronicles 7:14, and Proverbs 15:33.** What do these verses say about how we are to position ourselves before God?
- Share a time when you may have moved ahead of God but later re-positioned yourself to be led by Him.

**Life Challenge**

Of the 3 Key Observations from Joshua: God's Personal Appearance, Joshua's Misalignment, and Joshua's Realignment, which most resonates with you today? Identify if you need to seek the Lord for instruction or if you need to realign your attitude to be in a position to move forward.

**Prayer**

Ask our God to search your heart for anything that may prevent you from possessing your *city*. Pray the Lord would give you a clear next step and the power to accomplish it. Pray for the specific needs of your small group.