

Home Group Questions

the week of 1/27/2019

Exodus & Various Passages

GREAT FOLLOWERSHIP

GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday Pastor Mel began his series on the ordinary superheroes of the Old Testament. Joshua is a wonderful study of a man who was a great follower which built within him the characteristics he needed to become a great leader.

LOOKING IN THE WORD...

1. Read Romans 13:1-7. Before looking at the life of Joshua, it's important to have the foundation of being a great follower by understanding Scripture's teaching on authority, which is that all authority on this earth has been instituted by God. However, that does not mean that all leaders are following God's truth. This truth can be easier to swallow when we are under the authority of benevolent leaders. What are some greater biblical truths or doctrines that we need to remind ourselves of when we are under the authority of leaders/bosses we don't like or agree with? How should we respond when our bosses tell us to do something that we think is a dumb idea? What do we do as great followers, even if we're confident the boss's idea will ultimately fail?

2. Read Exodus 17:8-13. In the war with the Amalekites, Joshua is given the hard job of fighting the Amalekites while Moses holds up his staff. Lesser men might have questioned a leader who would stay out of the battle while sending others to fight, but Joshua did what Moses ordered. Why is it important in the family of God to be willing to do the tough jobs without complaining or questioning? What happens to organizations that have people who are constantly questioning their role, as they desire the "easier" or "more visible" roles? How

can we be a part of encouraging a heart like Joshua's in the church ...not only in ourselves, but also in others?

3. Read the following quote from a book on "The Art of Followership":

Star followers think for themselves, are very active, and have a positive energy. They do not accept the leader's decision without their own independent evaluation of its soundness. If they agree with the leader, they give full support. If they disagree, they challenge the leader, offering constructive alternatives that will help the leader and organization get where they want to go. Some people view these people as "leaders in disguise", but this is basically because these people have a hard time accepting that followers can display such independence and positive behavior. Star followers are often referred to as "my right hand person" or my "go-to person." (Page 8)

What makes following so difficult? Why do so many people fall into the trap of being envious or critical of those who lead them? Some might say, "It's because my boss is a bad leader"...well...**read Philippians 2:14-18.** How does this passage inform our attitudes, even when things we are called to do seem unfair or insignificant? What is the greater purpose we have in the way we follow when it comes to our testimony for Christ in a dark world? How can we battle the tendency to complain or argue with those in authority over us who tell us to do things we don't like?

4. Take some time to share testimonies of what the Lord may have taught you from leaders in your past, even when you might not have enjoyed the experience at the time you were under their authority!!

MOVING FORWARD...

Pray that the Lord would help you to have the heart of a great follower when you are placed under the authority of another in your life!!