

The Savior Worth Serving

Use this guide as a tool to help you prepare to experience spiritual transformation in a practical way. It is a **flexible guide** that will help you discover, own, and apply the truths of God's Word.

Message Summary

The New Day Church family is reading through the bible chronologically in 2017. Each week we hear a sermon that leads us into the reading for the week and shows us the Gospel thread throughout the story. We are learning that the story of Redemption is on full display from Genesis to Revelation. Both Old and New Testaments are one unified story that speaks of the beauty of God and the Redemption He has provided for us.

Last week we heard a message from Joshua 1:1-9 and were challenged to do whatever it takes to win our communities with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Israel was challenged in Joshua chapter 1 to take the land. Joshua was challenged to lead them to do so and for the remainder of the book of Joshua you will read about them doing just that – they took the land. Yes they made mistakes along the way, but for the most part Joshua and the children of Israel took what God had promised He would give them many years before. Now that they had conquered the people of the land, Joshua stands at the end of this book in Joshua 24 and challenges the people to do one more thing. He challenges them with the question of who they will serve.

This week as you read through the book of Joshua think about what God was giving Israel and why He was giving it to them. Also, as you read, think about the reasons Joshua gave Israel for why they should serve the Lord. These reasons are demonstrated throughout the book of Joshua and the conquest of the land.

Joshua told Israel to “choose this day whom you will serve!” The word “serve” is used 16 times in Joshua 24. Seven times alone in Joshua 24:14-15 we hear this word – “serve”. What does it mean? It means “to work, labor, expend considerable energy and intensity in a task or function.” It carries with it the idea of being a slave. Frankly, a form of the word does mean slave. It also means to bow down to and worship someone or something. Now that God had given them the land, Joshua was calling the children of Israel to give themselves in service to the One true God.

Jesus is issuing the same call to you today. If you have tasted in the beauty of Jesus Christ then devote your life to faithfully serve Him too! As you prepare to meet with your Missional Community this week examine the sermon points and compare them to the reasons you serve God. Joshua demonstrated to Israel that the Lord was worthy to be served in their day. That same Lord is the One who came into the world to save sinners. He came to give us life, call us to worship, and lead us to obey Him. He truly is the Savior worth serving!

Message Outline

For Israel to Serve God meant to:

1. Fear God because He is Sovereign.
In His Sovereignty:
 - He is Holy.
 - He is Jealous.
 - He is Just.
2. Worship God because He is Gracious.
In His Graciousness:
 - He is Holy.
 - He is Jealous.
 - He is Just.
3. Obey God because He is Worthy.
In His Worth:
 - He is Holy.
 - He is Jealous.
 - He is Just.

We serve Jesus because:

1. His Sovereignty demands our Fear.
2. His Graciousness demands our Worship.
3. His Worth demands our Obedience.

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Group Discussion

Use the following questions to help make application of God’s Word to your Head (What God wants me to know), to your Heart (What God wants me to desire/value), and to your Hands (What God wants me to do).

In regard to Joshua 24:1-28:

1. What does this passage teach about God? (God’s Identity; Theology)
2. What does this passage teach about what God has done? (God’s Action; Christology)
3. What does this passage teach about man/me? (Old & New Creation Identity; Ecclesiology)
4. What does this passage teach about what I should do? (Reveals what I really believe about Questions 1-3; Missional Ecclesiology)
5. What does this passage teach about how I do it uniquely in my context? (personal action steps of obedience)

Weekly Prayer Focus

• Church:

- Pray as we seek to identify additional elders to lead us into the future.
- Pray about going on a global mission trip this year.
- Pray as we seek to raise up additional leaders who will multiply our Missional Communities.
- Pray for our worship space.
- Pray for our finances.
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- _____

• Local:

- Pray that all who have believed the Gospel will obey Jesus in believer’s baptism.
- Pray for new relationships that will lead to Gospel conversations.
- Pray for the Missional Communities to impact their communities with the Gospel.
- Pray that God would burden us with the lostness in our cities, neighborhoods, and at work.
- Pray that God will identify 5 people you can begin to invest in and engage with the Gospel.
- _____
- _____
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• Global:

- Pray that God would give you a heart for the nations.
- Pray for new workers on the mission field.
- Pray for the team working in SEA, the new believers, for those who have heard the Gospel, and the church planting movement among the unreached.
- Pray for Good Shepherd Ministries and Bill & Sandy Younger.
- Pray for Servants Hearts Ministries and Bob & Georgette Kornegay.
- Pray for Pastor Abraham and his church in Guatemala.
- Pray for the work of Paul & Sarah Young and Dakota Baptist Church in North Dakota.
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