



*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

INTRODUCTION

01/10/2016

Passion can quickly succumb to pessimism in the face of challenges. An unlikely character in Joshua chapter 2 reminds Israel of their reason for confidence.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Provide a 2 or 3 sentence summary of John's message "Prove It" from Sunday. What stood out most?
2. Read Joshua 2. Locate Shittim and Jericho on a map. What is the distance between them? What was the purpose of sending the spies (Numbers 13:17-20; Joshua 2:1)?
3. What risks does Rahab take in protecting the spies? Why does she take on these risks?
4. Where does the New Testament refer to Rahab? Summarize what it says about her.
5. What does Rahab know and believe about the God of Israel (vv. 8-11)?

6. Compare the message given to Joshua in chapter 1 with the emotions of the people of Jericho. What difference exists between the people of Israel and of Jericho that results in such a drastic perspective?

7. The last time Israel prepared to cross the Jordan and enter the Promised Land, pessimism captured the hearts of the spies (Numbers 13:25-33). What difference is there this time? In the face of major challenges, what can you do to bolster your confidence in God?

8. You can begin seeing what God has done by becoming more familiar with the Bible. From there you can begin to identify his movement today. What stories in the Bible stand out as reminders of God's faithfulness to, and love for, humanity?

9. Answers to prayer serve as a powerful reminder. What answer(s) to prayer has Israel received that prepares them for the crossing of the Jordan and the conquest of the Promised Land? What answers to prayer have you seen in the past 3 months, either in yourself or others?

10. Passion can easily slip into pessimism. How does prayer and journaling combat this (cf. Psalm 102:18-22)? What steps do you need to take to stay on the path of passion rather than pessimism?

11. Doubt and fear never fully subside, but how can you take new steps of faith?

MOVING FORWARD

John emphasized the importance of writing down what God has done. This week, make a conscious effort to pray and anticipate God's participation in your day-to-day. As you pray and begin to encounter God, write it down.