



*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**

**01/31/2016**

Israel's enters the Promised Land and survives enormous hardships through the unifying force of a shared identify and responsibility. They formed a community that ensured their survival.

## **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

1. Joshua states that the tribe of Ruben, Gad and the half-tribe of Manasseh have reached their Promised Land, their rest. Based on John's message, how does helping the other tribes impact them?
2. Reflect on Joshua 1:10-15. What is the importance of Joshua's command to the two and half tribes as it pertains to the solidarity of Israel?
3. Background on the two and half tribes of Israel can be found in Numbers 32. What was their rationale for selecting land outside of the Promised Land?
4. How might the decision of the two and half tribes to live outside of the Promised Land affect their brothers?
5. How does the role of the two and half tribes challenge your participation in the church? In your community group?

6. The community of Israel is unified around a shared identity and a common purpose. How do these two things affect relationships?
  
7. The Old Testament priests had the responsibility of guiding the people in their relationship with God. How does someone guide another in a relationship with God? To what extent would you consider this your role?
  
8. In Matthew 15:10-14, Jesus refers to the religious teachers of his day (Pharisees) as blind guides. What does this insult suggest about the necessary elements of a spiritual guide?
  
9. There is a corporate element to spirituality and following Jesus. Each person, though imperfect, contributes to and guides the other. How do we know what the goal of that journey should be?
  
10. Israel has a complex shared journey with God. How has your spiritual journey developed? Could you name two high points and two low points in your faith? How might these help others?

## **MOVING FORWARD**

If you're doing these questions it's likely that you are already part of a Community Group at Grace. So I want you to dig deeper. How could you come alongside others in the group to encourage them in their faith? Can you invest more into those you meet with?