



*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**

**01/03/2016**

Joshua takes over the amazing task of bringing Israel into the promises of God. In order for this to successfully happen, he has to have passion and a plan.

## **REFLECTION QUESTIONS**

Read Joshua 1

1. What changes have thrown Joshua into his new role? What is the task that Joshua and the people of Israel must pursue?
2. What message does Joshua receive with his commissioning? Note the repetitions. Why is this message so important?
3. The previous generation failed to enter the promise land due to a lack of faith in God. As Israel's new leader, Joshua must bring passion and faith to the task. How do you cultivate passion and faith?
4. Throughout these verses, a lot of attention is given to obeying the commands of God. Do these inhibit or empower passion? Why are these so important to Joshua's task? (cf. Deuteronomy 30:15-20)
5. God was providing Israel something greater than mere land. Looking at verses 10-15 what does God provide through the land? Why is this significant? How does this purpose impact your pursuit of God's plans? (Joshua 21:44-45; cf. Exodus 33:14)

6. As you think about your plans for 2016, take stock of your spiritual health. If you haven't decided to follow Jesus what stands in the way? If you are a follower of Jesus, where have you seen progress? Answers to prayer? What areas would you like to see more progress?
  
7. Write down something(s) you would like to see happen in your spiritual journey. How can you reach these goals? Come up with two ways and then brainstorm as a community group one more thing that might help you reach this goal.
  
8. Success takes discipline. Even if the goal is not spiritual, your faith is intended to impact every task you pursue (Colossians 3:23; Matthew 6:33). If you did not write down your passion for this year take a few minutes to pray and write it down.

What spiritual disciplines will help you succeed at reaching this goal (prayer, worship, bible reading, meditation, serving, community, etc)?

What fruits of the spirit will be particularly important as you pursue your passion: Love; Joy; Peace; Patience; Kindness; Generosity; Faithfulness; Gentleness; Self-Control?

9. Pursing God through spiritual disciplines produces spiritual results (i.e. fruit). This is part of "A Winning Plan". As a community group, how can you support each other in drafting and implementing your plan? What would help you most in pursuing your plan?

## **MOVING FORWARD**

This is just the beginning of Israel's foundational journey. Joshua rallies the people of Israel around the plan that God has laid before them. Over the next couple of days prioritize prayer. Write down your prayers; capture what you want to see God do in 2016.