

RHBC Men-to-Men Discipleship Group
 Study of the man, Joshua
 6 JUN 2021

This week we continue to see how God’s way and Man’s way are different. We will be challenged by the Holy Spirit as we read and discuss how we, each approach seeking God’s guidance. How we encounter God. I encourage you to allow the Holy Spirit to assist you as your read various scriptures and chapter 11 in Keller’s book.

Keller gives a break-down of how Joshua meets Christ (The great “I Am, The Captain of the Lord’s Host”) and their respective interaction!

I recommend you read Keller’s chapter 11, then read the scriptures noted below. Ok, I know that this week’s instructions are not in alignment to what I have suggested in previous class material, but this week I believe this will allow you to “see” details necessary for our discussion. So read chapter 11, then these scriptures:

- Joshua 5:13 – 15
- Deut 2:24 – 37
- John 14:18
- Joshua 6:1 – 27
- Matthew 28:20

Did you highlight any sentences and/or phrases that grab your attention or spoke to your heart? We would love to hear what touched you...share with the group.

I did not run any rabbits down any long “rabbit holes” this week, so the material is short. Not a book like I did last session.

1. Think back to a time you were facing a huge challenge...an enemy...when you were the one to “decide” the fate of others...how did you address the need for counsel/guidance? Did you feel all alone? Look at the bottom of page 94 and re-read the last paragraph...can you image Joshua’s thoughts? Now this was the great leader...why would he even be walking, deep in thought?

Let us take time to breakdown the encounter Joshua had with Jesus. Maybe we will see some similarities in our moments with God...

Jesus’ Actions	Dialogue	Joshua’s Actions
Sudden appearance - Appears quietly with drawn sword		Draws his sword and challenges “Stranger” – “Are you for or against us?”
Announces who He is	I Am; the Captain of the Lord’s host, has come to your side.”	Recognizes the stranger’s voice – flings himself face down at the feet of Jesus
	“What are your orders, Lord?”	Shows respect – anticipates direction from Jesus and shows his willingness to act
Receives worship and holiness fills the space: Joshua in presence of Jesus	“Remove your sandals, stained and soiled. You are on sacred ground in this spot.”	Takes his sandals off and stands ready for direction

2. I was captured by the scene Keller depicted. His analysis of the encounter between Joshua and Jesus exposes some interesting interactions. How would you explain Joshua's recognition of Jesus?

3. Let us re-read Matthew 28:20 and John 14:18...Do we act each day as if we truly believe Jesus is with us?

4. Do we have any insight whether or not Joshua had a 'War Counsel'?

5. Let's turn to the bottom of page 96 in our book and review what God's instructions entailed. How would you react if your Commander told you God's plan for the battle?

5.a. What is the purpose of having our families (women and children) marching around Jericho?

5.b. Why were they to be silent for six days? Why only shout victory on the seventh day after the seventh march around the city?

6. On page 99, Keller tries to give us, from his perspective and interpretation of the Word, what Rahab, the harlot, was thinking, experiencing, and anticipating. Do you agree with Keller's summation of Rahab when he said, "She, who had been a harlot in Jericho, would be an honored mother in Israel."? (How could that be?)

7. Let us wrap up the fall of Jericho by touching upon the following aspects of the event:

- A. Triumph through calm and implicit compliance with God's command
- B. Perseverance was the "watch word"... Not all campaigns /challenges can be overcome/resolved quickly
- C. Let us learn that walking by faith requires us to trust God's directions and timing
- D. When we recognize that God is on our side; is our Captain of the Lord's host, He brings resources we cannot
- E. Can we acknowledge that the Battle is the Lord's: His wisdom, His Spirit, His power, His presence, and His hand is at work...we may only be a vessel/vehicle to represent Him
- F. God brings us "Jericho" victories to remind us He is the source of our victories