

## PREPARATION FOR LEADERSHIP #7 “Heritage”

Josh 1:1-7

Looking at Joshua preparing for Leadership. Where it begins and ends is with Heritage. Called “The Son of Nun.”

### I. HERITAGE

#### A. God plans for destiny involve connections to other people

1. The major identifying mark of Joshua: His connection to others
  - a. *VI Joshua the son of Nun... 29x identified this way; A son!*
2. God’s plan of destiny involves **heritage**: *A possession/something passed on/handed down*
  - a. We inherit things that have been paid for by others – at great cost!
  - b. We know things – because others have learned them and passed them on to us
  - c. We can do things because others have imparted them to us

*1. Numbers 27:18 And the LORD said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him;*

#### B. We can’t achieve our destiny by ourselves

1. *Joshua the son...* No one ever became a son by themselves!
  - a. *If you ever see a turtle sitting on a fence post, you can be sure he had help getting there*
2. God builds this into all of salvation
  - a. *The God of Abraham/Isaac/Jacob b. Saul: Knocked down/blinded – needing people*
    1. Family: *VI Son of Nun* 2. Pastor: *V3 As I said to Moses... 3. Church 4. Fellowship*
3. Heritage involves the choices of God: Birthright...no choice in our birth!
  - a. *Psa 47:4 He chose our inheritance for us, the pride of Jacob, whom he loved. Selah*
    1. *Saved here! Grafted in here! This church/this fellowship!*

### II. DESPIsing HERITAGE

#### A. The problem is that we often do not appreciate heritage

1. We fail to appreciate God’s plan of heritage
  - a. We don’t value – therefore we lack gratitude for what we’re connected to/what we’ve been given
    1. *Like prodigal son – we have no value for what he had been given*
2. We can allow success to make us forget our connection to heritage
  - a. *Heb 12:16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.*
    1. *Pride: I know some things/I can do some things... How do you know them??!!*
    2. *I want to carve out my own niche/make my own way/name for myself*

#### B. This is incredibly displeasing to God: He’s not impressed when we despise our heritage

1. *Deu 27:16 'Cursed is anyone who despises father or mother.' And all the people will reply, 'Amen.'*
  - a. Cursed: Things don’t work well – dominion/blessing is missing
2. Violating God’s order of salvation/destiny

### III. VALUING HERITAGE

#### A. Inheritance/heritage must be valued

1. **We must think about our heritage:** *Opposite of profane (without thought) is with thought – carefully/reverently*
  - a. *Finding out where we came from/why we do what we do/repenting of pride/reproducing/passing on*
2. **We must develop a gratitude for our heritage:** *Thanking God/thanking people*
  - a. *Paul's letters overflow with gratitude: He names/recognizes/thanks many people*
3. **We must deliberately connect with our heritage:**
  - a. *Joshua stayed connected to Moses; He had it written that he was the “Son of Nun”*
4. **We must fight to maintain our heritage:**
  - a. *2 Tim 1:14 Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.*  
*b. 2 Tim 2:2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.*
    1. *The same! Pioneers saved in fellowship go out and change everything/discard heritage!*

#### B. Blessing flows through heritage

1. Supernatural grace is released through heritage

*a. Joshua 1:5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, so I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.*

2. Your destiny is fulfilled as you are connected to heritage

*a. Joshua 1:6 Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I sware unto their fathers to give them.*