

Growth Teams

Week Beginning

Sunday 18th September 2016

Growth Team News

After the summer break, Growth Teams are back! This is a great opportunity to try one of the teams below.

The people that go find them a great help in getting to know others in the church better, finding personal prayer support and a better understanding of the Bible. If you want to grow as a Christian then these are the teams to join!

Going deeper

The book of Joshua records the invasion of what we call 'the Promised Land'. As such it is the climax of a very old story that takes hundreds of years to complete. In this chapter from Genesis we find the most detailed of God's promises to Abraham about the Promised Land.

Read Genesis 15:1-21

5. In vs. 1-5, what is Abraham struggling to believe? How does God encourage him to believe?
6. How does Abraham respond in verse 6? In what way is Rahab like Abraham?
7. What is Abraham struggling to believe in vs. 6-8? How does God encourage him to believe?
8. Covenants were agreements made between two parties. One way to make a covenant was to cut animals in two and for the two parties to walk together between them as a way of affirming the covenant. Who is affirming this covenant between God and Abraham?
9. Why will Abraham's descendants have to wait so long for the land? How does this put Jericho's destruction in context? Read 2 Peter 3:9. Why do we have to wait for a perfect world?

Now do the applying it to our lives questions...



**Growing in Christ
to glorify God
and enjoy Him forever.**

Israel's Faith: Jericho

Joshua 5:13-6:27 (page 219f)

Space to take notes on the talk

How do people respond to this passage?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Not: ' _____ ?' But: ' _____ ?'

• _____

• _____

• _____

• _____

Starter question

❖ How has God blessed you over the summer break?

Responding to the talk

1. What was the most surprising thing you learnt from the talk?
2. Read Joshua 5:13- 6:5
 - a. What do we learn about God from Joshua's encounter?
 - b. Who was going to win the battle of Jericho?
 - c. How do you think Joshua felt about God's plan for victory?
3. Read Joshua 6:6-15
 - a. How does the procession highlight God's presence?
 - b. What do you think would have been going through the minds of the troops as they carried out the plan?
 - c. What does their obedience reveal about their attitude? (cf. Heb. 11:30)
4. Read Joshua 6:16-27
 - a. How are the Israelites to treat the contents of Jericho?
 - b. Read Dt. 18:9-13; 20:10-18. Why are the Israelites to treat the Canaanites in this way?
 - c. Why is the salvation of Rahab such a key part of the story?

You may like to do the 'Going Deeper' questions over the page.

Applying it to our lives

10. What about the attitude of the Israelites are we to mimic today and what was specific to their time and place? (cf. 2 Cor. 10:3-5)
11. Do God's commands or teaching ever seem foolish to us? How should we react when they do seem foolish? (cf. 1 Cor. 1:18)