

Sermon Discussion Guide for Groups

"Joshua and Caleb" | The Story of Us series

Preached by Pastor Brady Boyd 09 March 2025

"And Moses did as the Lord commanded him. He took Joshua and made him stand before Eleazar the priest and the whole congregation, and he laid his hands on him and commissioned him as the Lord directed through Moses."

N U M B E R S 2 7 : 2 2 - 2 3 , E S V

Summary

Have someone from your group read the following summary aloud.

Pastor Brady took us deep into the story of Joshua and Caleb, unpacking three powerful truths that speak directly to where we are today. First, in the same way that Israel couldn't embrace the Promised Land without first letting go of the wilderness, we must mourn the past before we can step into the future God has for us.

Second, God's provision sometimes shifts, and we must trust him in new ways. When Moses led, manna fell from heaven, but when Joshua led, the manna stopped, and the people had to cultivate the land. Here we see that God indeed was still providing–just differently.

Finally, there's no age limit on faithfulness! Caleb was 85 when he claimed his mountain, proving that no one is ever too old to engage in God's good work. Through it all, Pastor Brady reminded us that while God's methods may change, his presence and provision never do. He remains faithful through every age and stage we encounter.

The question is: Will we trust him in the transition we're in?

Opening Prayer

Open your session in prayer, using the words below or your own.

"Lord, we come before you with open hearts, ready to receive the wisdom found in Joshua and Caleb's story. As we reflect on their faith and perseverance, help us to be honest about our own past—to grieve what needs grieving, to release what we cannot change, and to trust that you are leading us forward.

"Give us the courage to embrace the new ways you are providing, even when they look different from what we expected. Strengthen our resolve to serve you with unwavering faith, no matter our age or season of life.

"Holy Spirit, guide our conversation today. Speak to each of us personally, revealing what we need to hear and how we need to respond. May this time together draw us closer to you and equip us to walk in bold, unshakable faith. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Getting Going

What's something you found difficult to adjust to when it changed in your life (such as a new job, moving to a new place, or a new routine)?

Discussion Questions

Answer as many of the following questions as time and interest permit.

- 1. When have you neglected to properly mourn the past before moving forward? What was that experience like?
- 2. Describe a time when you experienced God's provision changing form in your life, even as he remained faithful to you.
- 3. How do you see the relationship between generations—the one bearing wisdom and resources with the one that brings innovation and energy—playing out in our church?
- 4. How does your service within our church differ today from previous eras in your life? What would you like for your service to look like as you look to the years ahead?
- 5. What does it mean to you practically to "choose this day whom you will serve"?

Making It Personal

Take the opportunity noted below to apply this week's sermon to your everyday life.

This week, take intentional steps to deepen your walk with Jesus. Don't just think about following him; instead, write down two or three specific, daily actions that will move your faith from intention to impact.

What does it look like to truly seek him each day? Maybe it's setting a firm time for prayer that you refuse to skip, diving into Scripture with curiosity instead of obligation, or turning everyday moments—your commute, your workout, your chores—into times of worship. Perhaps it's reaching out to someone who needs encouragement or making space for genuine fellowship with other believers. Whatever it is, don't let this be just another good idea—commit to the practice. Write it down. Follow through. Let your daily habits reflect the faith you profess.

Key Takeaways

Commit to memory one point from the message before you dismiss.

Which of these points will you carry with you this week?

- We must properly mourn the past before we can effectively embrace the future.
- God's methods of provision may change, but his faithfulness never does.
- Every generation has a vital role to play in God's kingdom work.
- Daily choosing to serve the Lord requires intentional action and commitment.
- Wisdom and experience should partner with innovation and energy in the church.

Closing Prayer

Have someone from your group close your time in prayer.

"Heavenly Father, thank you for the examples of Joshua and Caleb, who remained faithful throughout their lives. Help us to properly process our past, embrace your new provisions, and stay engaged in your work regardless of our age or season of life. Give us the courage to choose you daily and serve you wholeheartedly. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen."

Key Passage | Joshua 1:1-3, NIV

These verses were highlighted during this week's sermon and appear here for your reference.

"After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: 'Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses."

Passages for Further Study

• Joshua 5:10-12

Luke 5:37-38

Joshua 24:14-15

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