

Exodus 1-20
Numbers 13-14


Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged; for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

We learn from the things which happen to us in our lives. God uses events in our lives to teach us lessons and to prepare us for things which we will need to do in the future. We can see this in the life of Joshua.

Forty years of preparation

Think about how Joshua had watched God working all the time they had travelled through the wilderness. What would he have learned from his experiences as they travelled?


crossing the sea



Exodus 13:17-22

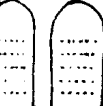
mana from heaven

Exodus 16:1-12




Exodus 20:1-17


God's ways made known at Sinai



his experiences in Egypt



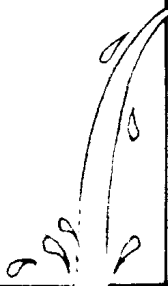
Exodus 1




fresh water at Marah

Exodus 15:22-25

water from the rock at Horeb



Exodus 17:1-6



Numbers 14:1-10

a day of decision at Kadesh Barnea



How do you think these incidents prepared Joshua for his task of leading the Israelites?

Can you think of any ways in which God is preparing you for your life?

Think about it: was Joshua the only one who went through the experiences in the wilderness?

How did he react differently to the things that happened?

What does that tell us about Joshua?

Do you think you need to learn to react in any particular way to the things which happen to you?

Readings this week:

S Exodus 33:7-17
 M Numbers 11
 T Numbers 13:16-33
 W Numbers 14:1-38
 Th Numbers 27:12-23
 F Deuteronomy 31
 S Joshua 1

Are there other similarities between Joshua and Jesus?
 Can you think what they might be?

Be strong and courageous

Read Joshua 1:1-9. How many times does God tell Joshua to be 'strong and courageous'.

What reasons does he give?

Do you remember what the spies had said about the land they had to try and conquer? Numbers 13:25-33. Would it be easy for Joshua?

What strange instruction did God give to Joshua when as a military leader he would be thinking about how to be successful in capturing the land? Joshua 1:8

What can we learn from this?

Do you think Joshua's attitude stood out from those of people around him?

Does your attitude stand out?

Is it sometimes difficult to stand out from others?

Are there times when it is particularly important to do so?

Digging Deeper

Joshua and Jesus

Compare Numbers 13:8 and 16 in different Bible versions. What does Joshua's name mean (The NIV study Bible or a concordance will tell you) Do you think Joshua's new name might have influenced him when he was spying out the promised land?

Matthew 1:21 What does Jesus mean?

Ask
 for God's
 blessing as
 you read his
 word.