

## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

REUBEN, GAD & THE HALF TRIBE OF MANASSEH • JOSHUA 1:10-18 • FEBRUARY 12, 2023

# FAITHFUL

### Foundational Practice: Living on Purpose

This month, we are focusing on our foundational practice of Living on Purpose. We invest our lives eternally, according to God's design. Our skills, gifts, passions, experiences, and relationships all contribute to living out our God-given purpose (Ephesians 2:10). As we consider this week's passage of preparing to enter the Promised Land, take a few moments to share a significant experience you've had in your life that has shaped you. Share how those experiences relate to living out your purpose.

1. **Read Joshua 1:10-18.** What was most significant to you from this passage? What stood out to you in the teaching on this passage?
2. Mike pointed out that what God was offering to the people was in fact a land, but more than that He was promising rest. True rest is found in the Gospel. How does knowing you've been set free from the power and penalty of sin through Jesus lead you to greater rest?

"When we find our lives hidden in him, we can rest."

- MIKE SLAYDEN

3. **Read Romans 6:15-23.** As a group, share some observations from these verses regarding being a slave to sin versus a slave to righteousness. What are the areas of your life you still live as a "slave to sin"? In what ways have you found living as a "slave to Christ" to bring more freedom and joy?
4. The sermon mentioned that though rest was promised, there was still hardship the people of Israel had to face in order to enter that rest. What are some difficult circumstances or hardships in your life currently that keep you from rest? How does remembering God's faithfulness increase your hope or endurance in times of difficulty?

#### CLOSING CHALLENGE: GUIDED PRAYER EXPERIENCE (15+ MINUTES)

- Read Matthew 11:28-30 slowly, out loud, twice. Spend 2-3 minutes in silent prayer after listening to these verses.
- Then, leader ask group to journal or share what comes to mind as you respond to the following questions:
  - Leader read to group:
    - "Think of coming to Jesus, giving him your burdens, and receiving rest. What do you need to change in your calendar to make time to come to Jesus? (2-3 mins)
    - What burdens do you need to give to him? What ways are you laboring and weary? (2-3 mins)
    - How can you receive his rest? (2-3 mins)
  - Close in prayer out loud with remaining time. Group members can share out in prayer from one of their responses above and the leader can close to end the prayer time. (5+ mins)