



Forty Years of Deep Preparation

#1 - Before Joshua was a great leader he was a great _____, a faithful servant who learned to play second fiddle well.

- “Then Moses set out with Joshua his _____.”

- Exodus 24:13

#2 - Joshua's life—even before he was the leader of Israel — was defined by _____.

- “Moses said to Joshua, ‘Choose some of our men and go out to fight the Amalekites’ So Joshua _____ against the Amalekites just as Moses had ordered...”

- Exodus 17:9, 10

“It’s not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles; or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, who, at best, knows in the end the triumph of great achievement, and who, at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly.

So that his place will never be with those cold, timid souls who know neither victory or defeat.”

- Theodore Roosevelt

#3 - Joshua played for an Audience of _____ - standing up for what was right - even when the crowd was ready to kill him for it.

- “Joshua and Caleb... said to the entire Israelite assembly, ‘The land we passed through and explored is good. If the Lord is pleased with us, He will lead us into that land.... Do not rebel against the Lord. And do not be afraid of the people.... The Lord is with us!’”

“But the whole assembly talked about _____ them.”

- Numbers 14:6-10

#4 - Joshua was _____ (for forty years) by someone who followed God with all His heart.

- Almost every reference to Joshua (from Exodus to Deuteronomy) shows Moses supervising, appointing, commissioning, correcting, encouraging, and instructing him.

Response Time

God wants to do a deep work of preparation in you now to get you ready for the assignments He has in store for you in the future . . .

- 1) Are you willing to learn to play second fiddle well?
- 2) Are you willing to let God grow in you a courageous trust in Him - that moves you to take on God-sized challenges instead of avoiding them?
- 3) Are you resolved to play for an Audience of One - in those situations where you're tempted to just go with the crowd?
- 4) Are you willing to pray about being mentored or being a mentor for someone?