


## Serve God

 MEMORY VERSE: “We will serve the Lord our God. We will obey Him alone.”  
Joshua 24:24

### DAY 1 JOSHUA 22:1-5 — Joshua Sends the Tribes from the East Home

1. In what ways had the tribes of Reuben, Gad and ½ of Manasseh obeyed the Lord? What 5 things does Joshua charge them to do?
2. How do these instructions from Joshua answer the question: “What does God expect of me?” Why do you think God put these 5 elements in this order - love, walk, obey, hold firmly, serve?

### DAY 2 JOSHUA 22:6-34 — Tribes from the East Return Home

3. Read verses 10-14. What did these tribes do on their way home? How did the Israelites respond?
4. Read verses 21-29. What had the tribes actually built?
5. What principles can we learn from this disagreement/miscommunication?

6. Israel's readiness to fight this battle on behalf of God's truth and holiness shows great courage, however, it must be done in godly ways. Share ideas on how Christians can stand up for their beliefs in this world.

## DAY 3 JOSHUA 23 — Joshua's Farewell Address

7. Read verses 1-5. What does Joshua remind the rulers of the people?
8. Read verses 6-13. What were the positive things they were to do? What were the negative things they were to avoid?
9. Joshua knew Israel's weak spots for temptation. What are your weak spots for temptation?
10. Read verses 14-16. What do we learn about God's character? What is the other side of God's faithfulness which Joshua reveals? Why is it important for us to understand both sides?

## DAY 4 JOSHUA 24 — The Lord's Covenant Renewed

11. Verses 1-13 tells of all the wonderful things the Lord did for His people throughout their history. Why did Joshua review the history of Israel? What lessons could they (and we) learn from their history?
12. What does Joshua challenge the people to do? vv. 14-15 What choice did Joshua make? Have you made your choice? Share what it means to you to serve the Lord.

13. Read verse 19-21. What do you think Joshua meant in verse 19 when he says, “You are not able to serve the Lord...?” What do you think God would say of your faith and commitment to Him?
14. Read verses 22-28. What did they do to show their obedience to the Lord over and above just saying they would serve Him? What was the covenant that was made? v. 24
15. Read verses 29-33. What did the Israelites do after Joshua died? v. 31

## DAY 5 JOSHUA 22-24 — Wrap Up

16. God’s blessing for obedience and cursing for disobedience was a specific part of Israel’s covenant with God. Because of Jesus we relate to God under a different covenant but we do experience God’s faithfulness to correct us as a loving Father. What does Galatians 3:13-14 tell us about the new covenant?
17. Why do you think Joshua was successful in leading Israel? Why is obeying God the way of life? (For further reference: John 8:31-32; John 14:23; John 15:14; Psalm 16:11)

### TAKE AWAY

Choosing to follow the Lord is the most important decision you will make. You must choose to have a personal relationship with God on your own. Will you serve God or this world?

### BLESSING

God’s promises to us will be fulfilled according to His timing, not our timing. He wants to build our faith and increase our dependence on Him instead of our reliance on ourselves.

## Serve God

Joshua told the Eastern tribes of Reuben, Gad and ½ of Manasseh that they had obeyed the Lord and now they could go home to be with their families. On their way home they built an altar to show they still belonged to Israel and still worshipped the Lord. Some of Western tribes didn't understand why they built this altar. They became angry and wanted to fight. When have you jumped to conclusions before you knew the facts?

Knowing he will soon die, Joshua summons the people and reminds them of all God has done for them. Joshua also warned about having idols. Many things dominate our lives

and can become idols. It's what's in your heart - if it isn't Jesus, it's an idol. Replacing Him with idols produces emptiness and destruction.

Joshua and the Israelites made a covenant with God. The people promised to serve the Lord. God wants us to choose to serve and worship only Him. Our choices reflect what we truly value. When we truly serve Him, we give our whole lives to Him.

Joshua was a great leader. He had great faith and knew God would keep all His promises. There is much we can all learn from Joshua.

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