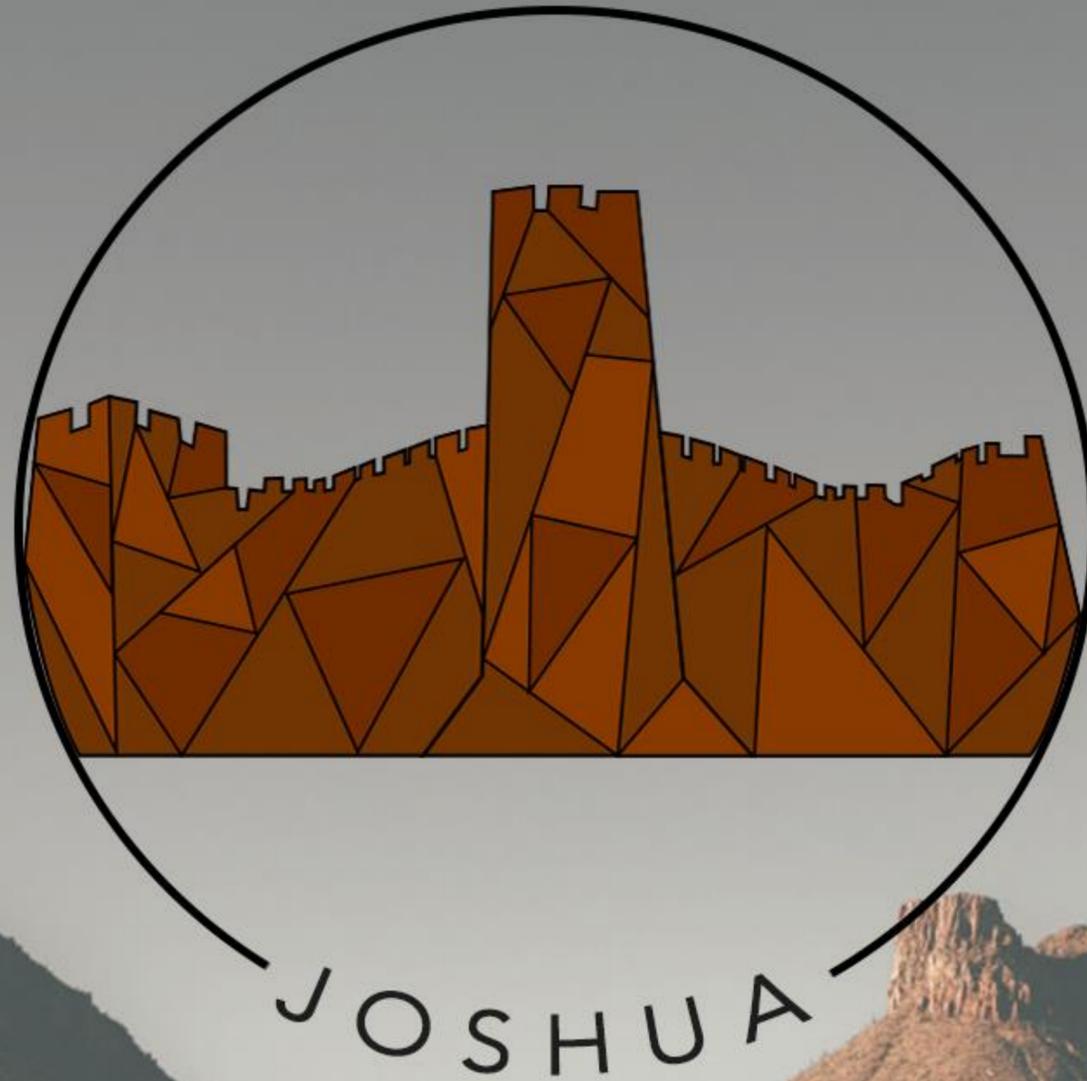
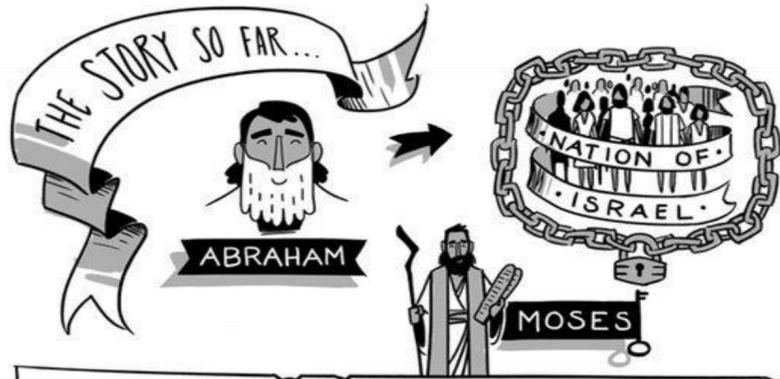


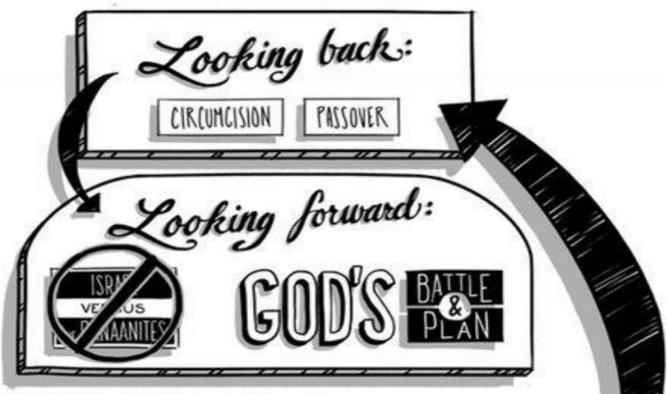
ON, STRAIGHT ON!



Joshua 23:1-16



JOSHUA



1-5 JOSHUA LEADS ISRAEL

1 OBEY THE COMMANDS OF THE TORAH
RIP MOSES
 JOSHUA = NEW MOSES

2 THE SENDING OF THE SPIES
 GOD OF ISRAEL!
 RAHAB

3-4 LEADS ISRAEL INTO PROMISED LAND
 ISRAELITES
 ARE YOU FOR US OR FOR OUR ENEMIES?
 NEITHER

5 ANGEL OF THE LORD

GOD'S JUSTICE ON HUMAN EVIL

WHY THE CANAANITES?

1 MORAL CORRUPTION (SEE LEVITICUS 18) CHILD SACRIFICE (SEE DEUTERONOMY 12:29-31)

2 DID GOD INITIATE A GENOCIDE? (STORIES USE HYPERBOLE)
 "TOTALLY DESTROY" "NO SURVIVORS" "ALL THAT BREATHED"
 SEE DEUTERONOMY 7 - "DESTROY" ISN'T LITERAL
 SEE JOSHUA 10:36-39 VS 15:13-15
 CANAANITES CAN TURN TO GOD OF ISRAEL

3 UNIQUE MOMENT IN HISTORY
 LIMITED TO CANAANITES
 PEACE WITH OTHER NATIONS (SEE DEUTERONOMY 20)

6-12 BATTLES WITH THE CANAANITES

6 JERICO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS
The Point → TO INHERIT THE LAND, ISRAEL MUST BE OBEIENT

7-8 AI ISRAEL'S FAILURE
 DEFEATED ACHAN VICTORIOUS

9 GOD OF ISRAEL!
 GIBEONITES

10-11 DESTROY ISRAEL!
 CANAANITE KINGS

12 ISRAEL'S VICTORIES

✓ JERICO	✓ HORMAH
✓ AI	✓ BETHEL
✓ JERUSALEM	✓ TAPPAH
✓ HEBRON	✓ ATHEN
✓ LACHISH	✓ LASHARON
✓ EGLON	✓ HAZOR
✓ GAZER	✓ AKSHEPH
✓ DEBIR	✓ TRANEH

13-22 JOSHUA DIVIDES UP THE LAND

OLD JOSHUA ABRAHAM

PROMISED LAND

BORING!

BUT FOR THE ISRAELITES, IT'S SUPER IMPORTANT

FULLFILLMENT OF GOD'S PROMISE TO ABRAHAM (SEE GENESIS 12:6-7)

23-24 JOSHUA'S FINAL WORDS

FAITHFULNESS TO THE TORAH
 LIFE AND BLESSINGS IN THE LAND

UNFAITHFULNESS
 DIVINE JUSTICE AND EXILE

WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO?

Joshua 23:6-13

“Therefore be very steadfast to keep and do all that is written in the book of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand not to the left, that you may not be mixed with these nations left here among you or make mention of their gods or swear by them or serve them or bow down yourselves to them. But cleave to Yahveh your Elohim as you have done to this day.

For Yahveh has driven out before you great and strong nations; and as for you, no man has been able to withstand you to this day.

One of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is Yahveh your Elohim Who fights for you as He promised you.

Take good heed to yourselves, therefore, to love Yahveh your Elohim.

For if you turn back and join the remnant of these nations left here among you and make marriages with them so that you marry their women and they yours,

Know assuredly that Yahveh your Elohim will not continue to drive out these nations before you; but they shall be a snare and a trap for you, a scourge on your sides and thorns in your eyes, till you perish from off this good land which Yahveh your Elohim has given you.”

JOSHUA

Why Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?



Vs. 3

**All that God has done
for your sake**



Vs. 3, 9, 10

**He fought for
you against
enemies**



Vs. 5, 14, 15

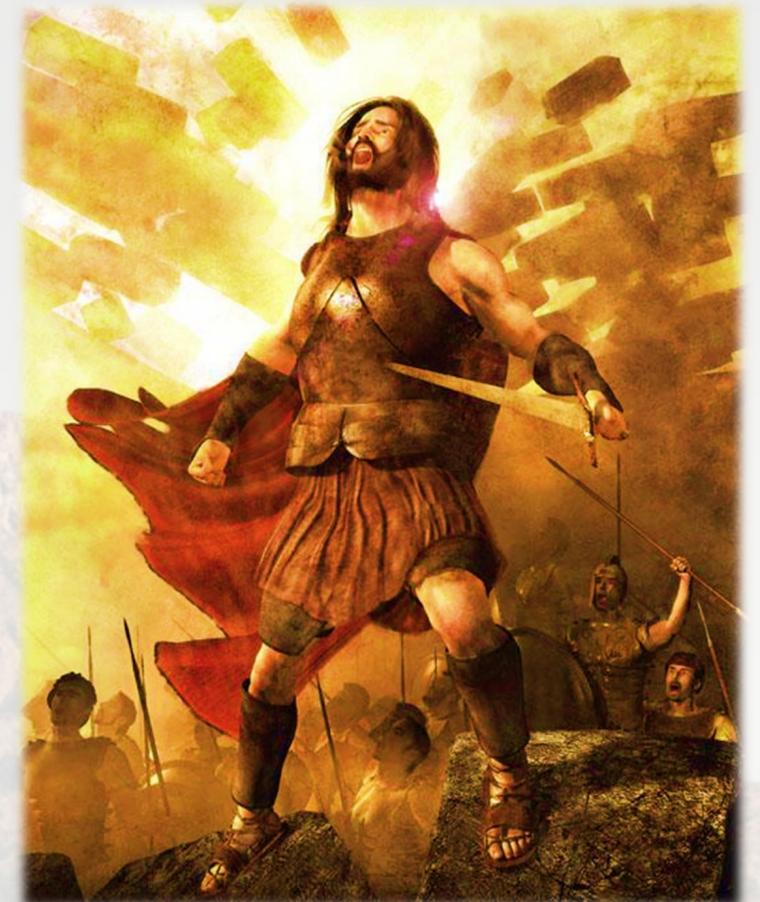
**He has given you what
you have and established
you as He promised**

How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

Joshua 23:6 Therefore be very **steadfast** to **keep** and **do** all that is written in the book of Moses, turning aside from it neither to the right hand not to the left...

Steadfast: Chazak! (cf Jos 1:6)

Means to seize, be firm, strengthen, fortify, repair, courage, take hold.



How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

Keep: Shamar

Means to guard, hedge, about, protect, preserve, save, watch.

Purpose of the command - Fellowship

What do laws reveal about God?

Do: Asah

Means to fashion, accomplish, make, work, act, prepare, attend, offer. It is purposeful, intentional actions.



How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

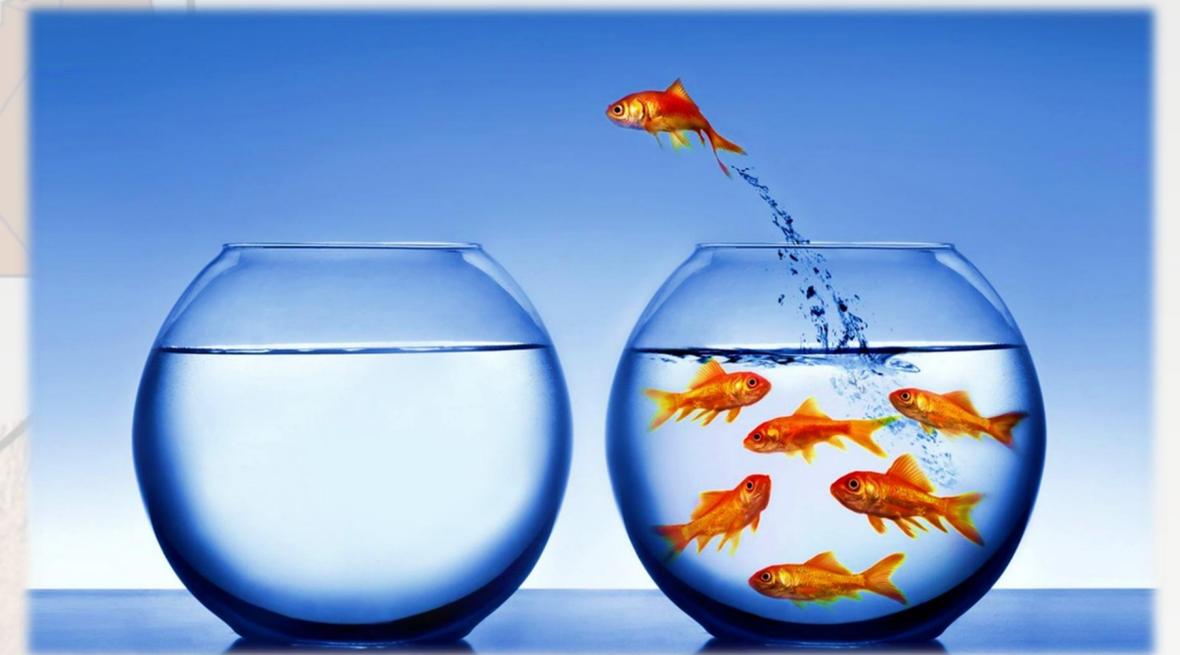
Joshua 23:7 That you may not be **mixed** with these nations left here among you or make **mention** of their gods or swear by them or **serve** them or bow down yourselves to them.

Mixed: Bow'

Means to not associate, go/come.

Mention: Zakar

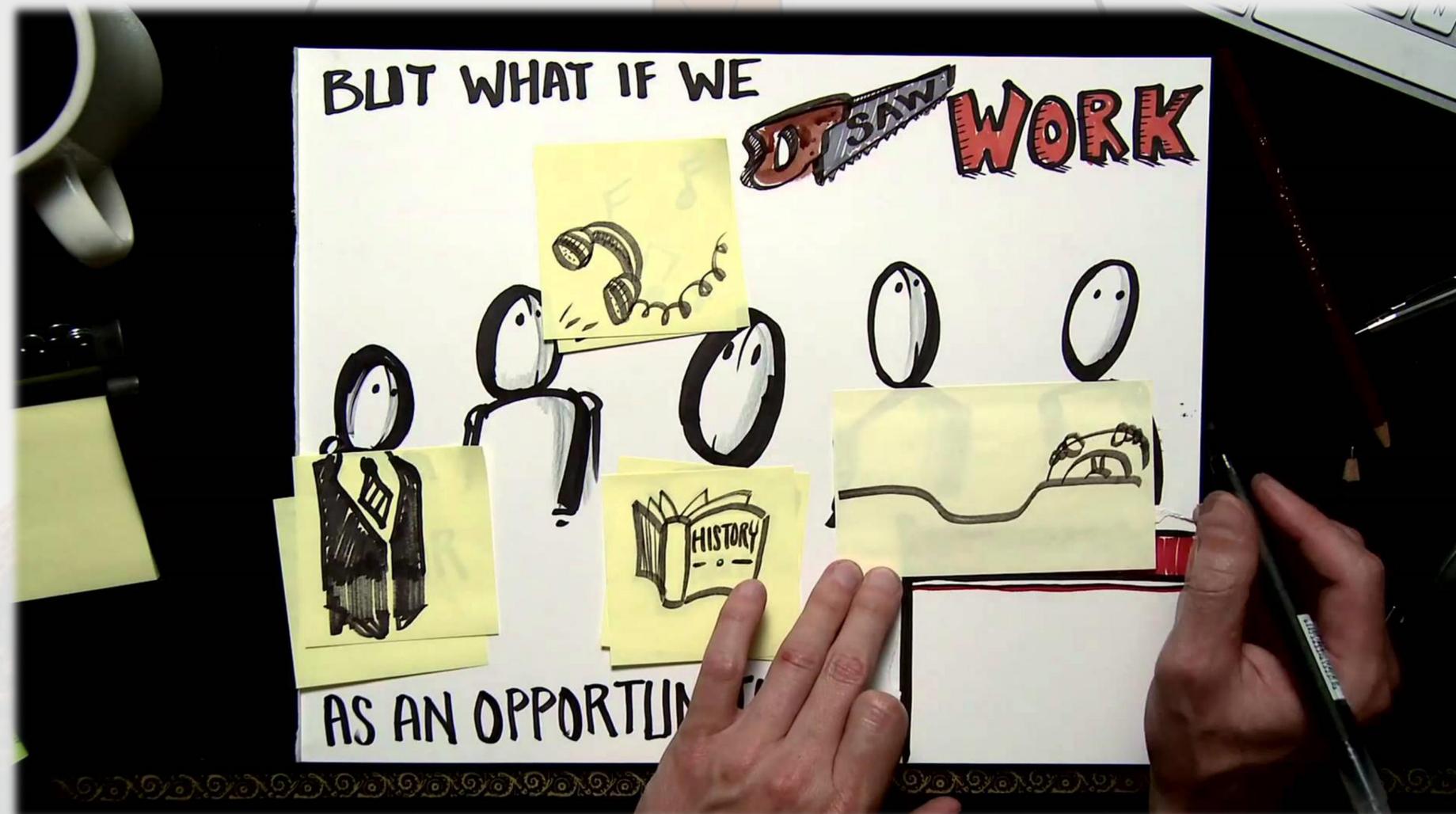
Means male, memorial, burn incense, recall.



How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

Serve: Abad

Means work, worship.



How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

Steadfast
Chazak



Keep
Shamar



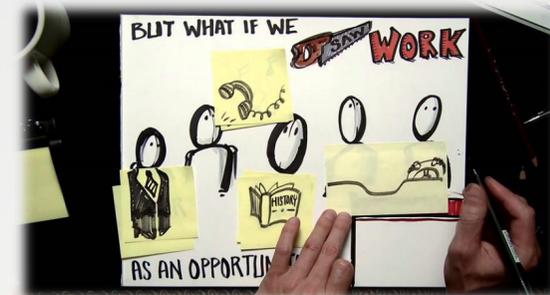
Do
Asah



Mention
Zakar



Mixed
Bow'



Serve
Abad



Living Out God's Word
in the Real World

PMC 2018 Theme

How to Be Steadfast and Strong to Obey the Law?

Battle for your faith
Eg: Exams
Academics



Examine your faith
Eg: Family
Devotions



Practice your faith
Eg: Treatment
of Others



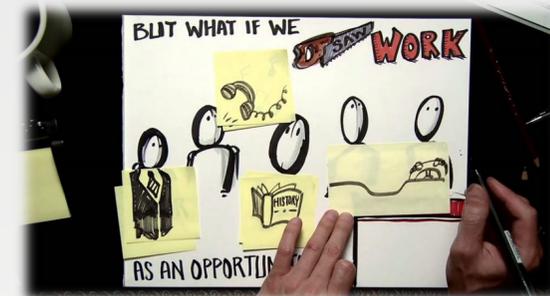
Practices that Mention (Honor) What the World Values

Eg: Tolerance, ghost month, 'cursed' items



Marketplace attitudes mixed with Christian practices

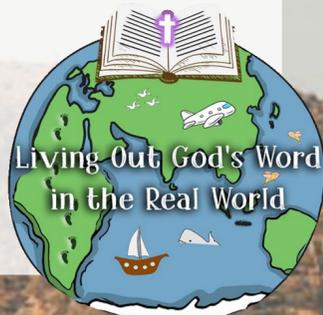
Eg: Everyone is doing it



Serve Through Work & Worship

Eg: For self or to connect with God & Others in Worship

Not just about idolatry
Remembering & Obeying God in the midst of living



But Really Why???

Joshua 23:8, 11 But cleave to Yahveh your Elohim as you have done to this day. **Take good heed to yourselves, therefore, to love Yahveh your Elohim.**

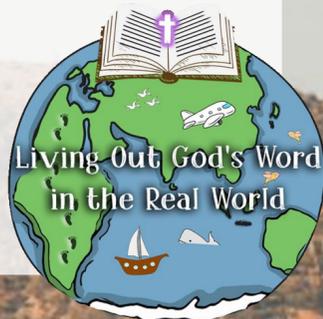
Genesis 2:24 Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and cleaves to his wife and they become one flesh.

Dabaq: Cleave
Sticky glue, abide, pursue, be joined



**COVENANT
FAITHFULNESS**

**That we may remain in
fellowship with God and
one another**



Sermon Recap: On, Straight On!

With Regard to Obeying God's Laws:

- A. Be steadfast and strong (white knuckled courage of chazak)**
- B. Guard your boundaries (hedge of shamar)**
- C. Intentionally take action (doing of asah)**

With Regard to the World Around You:

- A. Do not honour their ways (honour of zakar)**
- B. Do not be influenced by their beliefs (mixing of bow')**
- C. Do not serve like they do by dichotomizing (work is worship of abad)**

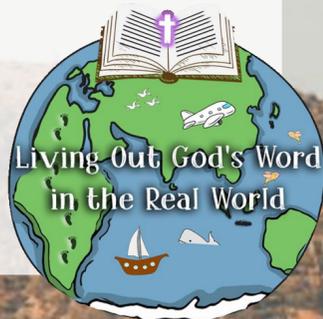
YOU ARE IN A MARRIAGE COVENANT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

So On, Straight On! Turn Neither to the right or the left.

Quiet Reflection:

- A. How has God's word **challenged my view** of Him, of myself, and of those around me? (What is my response?)
- B. What **attitudes** does God want to change in my life?
- C. What should I **do differently** this week as a result of what I heard today?
- D. How has this Word equipped me to **serve and witness** for Christ - at home, school, work and in society?

JOSHUA



Some other things to note for **Preachers**:

1. **At start**, say something like “Today, we continue preaching from the book of John.” OR “Today, we move on to the book of Exodus.”
2. Brief comments on past last week's **Bible readings**, if any.
3. **Preach sermon.**
4. At some point in the sermon, remind the audience that the theme for this year is: **"Living Out God's Word in the Real World"**.
5. As the sermon ends, please ask the following question before moving into application. -- **"How do we live this out in the Real World?"**

