

## THRIVING IN THE FACE OF DANGER

### Joshua 10-11

If Christians want to live the abundant life in Christ, they must make the commitments necessary to enter into it.

### Parables in History

God challenges Israel to take full possession of the Promised Land.

God challenges us to take full possession of the abundant life in Christ (John 10:10)

Not a picture of rest because we are called to rise up.

Not a picture of self-sufficiency because we are called to follow.

Not a picture of compromise because we are called to be victorious.

### Thriving in God's Protection

Despite deceit by frightened people God expected Joshua and his people to remain faithful to their word.

5. Are our personal struggles or fights going to find their conclusion in a similar fashion to Israel's? What evidence from Jim's sermon might support this belief?

6. Read Joshua 10:22-25. Does it feel "over the top" for Joshua to put on such a public display of execution? Why are we to embrace the image of "feet on the neck of kings" as a sign of our deliverance?

### Applying the Word

7. What decisions are requiring you to "be strong and courageous" in order to have an abundant life?

It was Israel that marched, but it was God who won the battle.

The abundant life is not casually waiting for God's blessing to fall.

God is the victor; but we are the participants.

Joshua 10:10

Israel surprised them; but God confused, defeated, pursued, and cut them down.

Joshua dealt with the enemy as we should deal with sin and compromise in our lives. (10:22-27; Hebrews 12:1)

### Thriving through God's sufficiency

The northern kings believed they could win through numbers, technology and strategy.

God said that Joshua had success because he completely followed the commands God gave him.

### Connecting to the Sermon

Sunday's message brought us back to Joshua and the conquest of the Promised Land.

1. What have you enjoyed so far in the story of Joshua and the nation of Israel? Has there been an event in the story you identified with?
2. The events in Sunday's sermon began with a siege of Gibeon. They asked for help from Israel and Israel went. What must it have been like for the people of Israel to help people who had just tricked and deceived them? Have you ever been in a situation like that and been called on to help a person who has wronged you? Did you help or not?

### Digging Deeper

3. Read Joshua 10:7-8 and Joshua 11:6. Why does God seem to say the same thing to Joshua again and again? What might Joshua be wrestling with?
4. Read Joshua 10:9-11. The last part of verse 11 provides clear indication of God bringing the ultimate victory. How can the nation of Israel claim part of the victory because of their obedience?