

# Joshua

△ Exod 33:7-11

## Introduction Series

Over the next few weeks we are following Joshua as a person

We will see him grow in passages from Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy and Joshua itself

So this is not about the book of Joshua

## Introduction reading

This is our first encounter with Joshua

But it is not the first occurrence of Joshua in Exodus

First we see him the story where he leads the army defeating Amalek

△ Ex 17:8-15

We look at that next week

Then we see him very briefly at the beginning of the story of

The stone tablets on Mount Sinai ◀

13 Then Moses set out with Joshua his aide, and Moses went up on the mountain of God

of God.

△ Ex 24:13

And at the beginning of the golden calf story

17 When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, “There is the sound of war in the camp.”

△ Exod 32:17

And our reading is in the middle of the Golden Calf Story

## Reminder

God invites Moses to come up to mount Sinai

He and Joshua then spend 40 days & nights on the mountain

Where God gives Moses the stone tablets with the Ten Commandments plus other instructions

But at this time the people think Moses is lost

And instruct Aaron to make a Golden Calf as a new God for them

So at then at the end as Moses and Joshua come down, Joshua hears the sounds of the people worshipping this calf

## Vignette

This passage is a vignette of the aftermath

Where Moses pleads with God to forgive

where Moses pleads with God to forgive the people and continue to lead them

But this passage describes what happens normally in the camp, even before he went up to Mount Sinai

## The tent of meeting

Repeat the reading

And at the end we see that Joshua is staying in the tent

## Joshua

So in these few glimpses we get an idea of who Joshua was

He was Moses assistant

Even so close to Moses that he could go up the Mountain where God spoke with Moses

He was young

early adulthood?

But he was also very dedicated to God

## In the tent of meeting

### Joshua

Moses did not have time to be in God's presence all the time

But Joshua did not have any responsibilities

And he chose to be in the tent of

meeting

Even if the presence of God was not in the tent

Because that only happened when Moses went into the tent

He still wanted to be close to where he knew where God was

Where is your tent of meeting?

## Other meeting places

Jesus often went away and prayed

For example:

<sup>35</sup>In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup>And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup>When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup>He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." <sup>39</sup>And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

△ Mark 1:35-39

During this time he heard from God and to move away from the town he was staying

Peter prayed on the roof

<sup>9</sup> About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray.

△ Acts 10:9

This was when he had the vision of sheet coming down from Heaven with unclean animals that God then declared clean

And the coming of the messengers from Roman Cornelius, until that time unclean in Peter's eyes

In the previous Chapter we see he had a vision about 3pm

I have a favourite chair in my office

But when I make the time, I also like to sit outside

Where is your tent of meeting,  
where you spend time with God?

## Time with God

Oswald Chambers wrote being ready for a battle or a crisis

△ My Utmost for His Highest, Sep 11

A faith battle or crisis

He says that we are deluding ourselves if we think that we are ready for that

just because we are Christians

Instead he says that the best training ground is our private and

training ground is our private and alone time with God

God's training ground ... is the hidden, personal, worshipping life of the saint

Just as Joshua was prepared in the tent of meeting for being the future leader of Israel

So it is for us to spend time with God alone, that he equips us as well

So please think about where is our tent of meeting, where you have the time and place to meet with God

And if you have it - use it!

Amen