



The Awful Effects of Sin

June 28, 2020

Reading/Group Discussion

Begin with prayer (5 minutes)

As you begin your virtual gathering, have someone open your time together by praying that the Holy Spirit would lead and guide your time.

Read this overview

The book of Joshua is an exhilarating book filled with stories of courage, faith, and the miraculous provision of God. It continues the story of the people of Israel as they journey to inherit the land that God promised them.

This past weekend Dan taught us from Joshua 2 about Rahab. Rahab is mentioned several times throughout the Scriptures and just about each time she is, she is held up as an example of what faithfulness to God looks like. We have much to learn from her example.

As we dive into our conversation today, we'll discuss how God can use the people we'd least expect to take new ground in our world for Jesus and his kingdom.

Scripture + Discussion

Have someone read **Joshua 7**. Then, talk through the questions below.

Here are a few questions to guide this time:

- How did this sermon deepen your faith? How did it challenge you?
- In this passage, we see the awful effects of sin. How have you seen sin negatively impact others (relationally, physically, etc.)?
- In what ways has the sin of others personally impacted *you*? In what ways has your sin impacted *others*?
- According to **Joshua 7:12**, Israel's sin affected their relationship with God. God's manifest presence was limited in their lives. Describe a time in your life where sin hindered your relationship with God.
- In this sermon, Dan mentioned that sin is a result of pride and distrust. When you think of the reasons why you or others sin, do you find yourself agreeing with Dan's assessment? Why or why not? What are the reasons you think provide support for sin in your own life?
- What sin(s) are preventing God from taking new ground in you and through you right now?

- Describe what new ground you might be able to take (or the Lord might take in your own heart) in the next 6 months, year, and 3 years if you weren't wrestling with those sins. How would your life be different if you kept struggling with those sins over the next 6 months, year, and 3 years?
- What is one takeaway you have from this message?

Accountability

This week, take some time to split your group into smaller or gendered groups and share your answers to the questions below.

- Who are you in God's eyes? Who are you in the eyes of this group?
- What has your time in God's word and prayer been like this week?
- What have you learned from Jesus this week?
- Have you consistently reflected the love of Christ to those in your life this week?
- Where have you wrestled with temptation this week?
- What strongholds have you wrestled with this week?
- Have you been 100% honest?

Finish with prayer

You might designate someone in your group to write down everyone's prayer requests and then send them to the whole group for everyone to be praying about through the week.

- What is on your heart that you need prayer for?
- Who in your life needs prayer?

Have someone close your time together by interceding for the requests that were shared.