

joshua

Common Sand To Promised Land

week one



The Big Idea

God has always been about family—even putting the first people in a family with one another. He reaches out to place us in His family, too. This week, we take a look at how connecting to others and becoming a part of God’s family can grow us closer to God and each other than ever before.



Tweetable Moments

“God’s plan for us is always bigger than us”

“God changes us before he uses us”



Next Steps

- You were made for this. This week, do something that makes you uncomfortable but brings others closer to God.



Discussion Questions

1. What is the most bizarre, silly, hilarious, crazy, or downright embarrassing memory you have of your family growing up?

2. Read Ephesians 2:12-13

What does it mean to you that we have been “brought near to God” through Christ? Do you remember what your life was like when you were far from God? What is the biggest difference between then and now?

3. Read Ephesians 1:5

At the time this verse was written, in their culture, adoption was permanent. Do you think of God like a Father who has adopted you, or do you sometimes see Him as a far off, powerful, and distant being?

4. Read 1 Corinthians 2:9

Is it always easy for you to see God’s plan for your life unfolding right in front of you? Why do you think it can be so hard to see and grasp?

5. Read Joshua 1:1

God changes us before He uses us. Have you ever wished this happened in the opposite order? Why do you think growing us over time, through a process, is so important to God?

Key Verses

Joshua 1:6, Romans 15:4, Ephesians 1:5

The Family

God grows us _____ at a time.

What do we learn from the Family?

1. _____ family is _____ family –
_____ family is _____ family.

In those days you were living apart from Christ. You were excluded from citizenship among the people of Israel, and you did not know the covenant promises God had made to them. You lived in this world without God and without hope. But now you have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to him through the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 2:12-13

*God decided in advance to **adopt us into His own family** by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.*

Ephesians 1:5

2. God's _____ for us is always bigger than us.

That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him."

1 Corinthians 2:9

3. God _____ through His family.

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green, proclaiming, "The Lord is upright; he is my Rock, and there is no wickedness in him."

Psalms 92:12-15

4. God _____ us before he _____ us.

*After the death of Moses the Lord's servant, the Lord spoke to Joshua son of Nun, **Moses' assistant**.*

Joshua 1:1