

R  N
are you in?

LifeGroups
get connected.

TRANSFORMATION

"And we... are being transformed into His likeness."

2 Corinthians 3:18

CHETS TOP 5

Vacation Bible
School
Registration
June 20th - 23rd
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Vacation Bible
School
Training/Dinner
June 6th
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Honoring
Servicemen
Overseas

Summer Bible
Studies Begin
Middle School
June 16th - 12:30 p.m.

High School
June 17th - 7:00 p.m.

College
June 1st - 7:00 p.m.

Beach Baptism
June 27th - 6:00 p.m.



CHETS CREEK
CHURCH

4420 Hodges Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32224
www.chetscreek.com
904.223.5954

Volume XI No. 20

Discussion Guide

Life Sentences - "Forgiveness"

FOCUS: To challenge the learner to forgive others with faith in God's sovereignty and the power of God's Spirit.

"15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, 'What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?' 16 So they sent word to Joseph, saying, 'Your father left these instructions before he died: 17 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs they committed in treating you so badly.' Now please forgive the sins of the servants of the God of your father." When their message came to him, Joseph wept. 18 His brothers then came and threw themselves down before him. "We are your slaves," they said. 19 But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I in the place of God? 20 You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. 21 So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and spoke kindly to them. 22 Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years 23 and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees. 24 Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. But God will surely come to your aid and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." 25 And Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath and said, "God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place." 26 So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt."

Genesis 50:15-26 (NIV)

1. What is significant about Jacob's death regarding the future relationships between Joseph and his 10 brothers who wronged him? (Genesis 50:14-17)
2. Is there someone you're waiting upon to be moved out of the way so that you can enact vengeance against the one(s) who wronged you?
3. Why did Joseph weep upon hearing his brothers' fearful, pathetic plea? (Genesis 50:17, 18)
4. Would the hearing of a fearful, pathetic plea by the person who wronged you move you to similar compassion? How would a Gospel-perspective move you to similar compassion?
5. How did Joseph find forgiveness for his brothers' according to the following verses?
 - a. (Genesis 50:19)
 - b. (v. 20)
 - c. (v. 21)
6. How are Joseph's words, "Am I in the place of God?" instructive for our faith-obedience? (Gen. 50:19)
7. How about you? Have you usurped the place of God, especially in relationship to the one(s) who wronged you? How can you humble yourself in faith-obedience to His divine will?
8. How did Joseph recognize and respond to God's sovereignty in over-riding his brothers' evil?
9. Can you recognize and respond to God's sovereignty in over-riding the evil done by others against you?
10. How did Joseph's merciful and benevolent actions toward his brothers foreshadow Christ's teachings and works (see Matthew 5:43-48)? How can you fulfill Christ's teachings and works in your merciful and benevolent actions towards the one(s) who wronged you?

Read Thru the Bible

"How sweet your words taste to me; they are sweeter than honey. Your commandments give me understanding; no wonder I hate every false way of life. Your word is a lamp to guide my feet and a light for my path."

Psalm 119:103-105

<u>May/June</u>	<u>Old Testament</u>	<u>New Testament</u>	<u>Psalm</u>	<u>Proverbs</u>
30	2 Samuel 1:1-2:32	John 8:21-41	68:7-14	14:29-30
31	2 Samuel 3:1-4:12	John 8:42-9:7	68:15-19	14:31-32
1	2 Samuel 5:1-6:23	John 9:8-27	68:20-27	14:33-35
2	2 Samuel 7:1-9:13	John 9:28-10:6	68:28-31	15:1-3
3	2 Samuel 10:1-11:27	John 10:7-30	68:32-35	15:4-5
4	2 Samuel 12:1-13:39	John 10:31-11:16	69:1-4	15:6-7
5	2 Samuel 14:1-15:37	John 11:7-20	69:5-12	15:8-9
6	2 Samuel 16:1-17:29	John 11:21-44	69:13-18	15:10-11

LifeGroup Prayer Requests:

"You are not responsible for everyone in the church family - but you are responsible to them. So speak encouraging words to one another. Build up hope so you'll all be together in this, no one left out, no one left behind."

1 Thessalonians 5:11

LOOKING TOWARD NEXT SUNDAY

Success - Joshua 1:1-9

To discuss Joshua's example of success and be challenged to alter his/her life to aim for true success.

MONDAY - MAY 31, 2010

Read Joshua 1:1-2; Isaiah 41:10; Matthew 28:18-20

*1 After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: 2 "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites. **Isaiah 10** So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. **Matthew 18** Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in[a] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*

- What are the two commands given to Joshua in these verses?
- In light of the great leadership given by Moses to the people of Israel, why do you think Joshua needed the specific encouragement to enter into the Promised Land?
- How do you think Joshua was feeling?
- How have you felt after the loss of a significant influence in your life? How did the Lord direct you to "get up and get going?"
- What promise did Joshua have from the Lord regarding the land?
- What promises do you hold onto when you are discouraged about moving forward with God's calling? Recall these promises regularly in prayer to the Lord.

TUESDAY - JUNE 1, 2010

Read Joshua 1:3-4; Deuteronomy 11:24

3 I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. 4 Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west.

24 Every place where you set your foot will be yours: Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the Euphrates River to the western sea.

- God is making a huge promise to Joshua regarding the Promised Land. Why do you think God promised land to Joshua wherever he would walk?
- What was significant about God reminding Joshua that this promise was the same He had given to Moses?
- Does that give a deeper meaning to the fulfillment?
- Has there been something in your life that you longed to experience and have recently experienced the fulfillment of that longing?
- Thank the Lord for that blessing! If there are longings or promises in your life that you are not experiencing, ask the Lord for patience and endurance.

WEDNESDAY - JUNE 2, 2010

Read Joshua 1:5; 1 John 4:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; Philippians 1:6

5 No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

4 You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

24 The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it.

6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

- Other people tend to “block our goals” in life. What promise was God now giving to Joshua?
- What would be the duration of that promise?
- At the core of this promise and the ability to fulfill this promise is God’s character and capacity. God is trustworthy and powerful to bring about all things according to His purposes. Do you believe these truths about yourself and your situation?
- Share your thoughts with someone. Pray together and trust in God’s faithfulness.

THURSDAY - JUNE 3, 2010

Read Joshua 1:6-7

6 "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

- The role of leading others, especially a nation, can be very lonely and it can bring out insecurities in a person. What are the exhortations that God gives here, repeating it twice in these verses?
- What is the difference between being strong and being courageous?
- Both of these character traits are to combat fear. What do most people fear when they are faced with obeying God's commands? Do you fear the same things?
- How can you be strong and courageous despite your fear(s)?

FRIDAY - JUNE 4, 2010

Read Joshua 1:8-9

8 Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

- This whole first chapter of Joshua is about mobilizing Joshua for action and leading God's people to experience God's promises. He was to carry on a task that, from a human standpoint, would be overwhelming. What role would the Law (God's Word) play in helping Joshua accomplish God's calling?
- The Lord says that the Law was to be on his mouth and in his mind. He was then to be careful to do what?
- What would be the benefit of obeying God's Word?
- Do you think this pattern applies today (think + say + doing God's Word = God's blessing)?
- How are you doing in following this prescription for your life?
- Find someone to hold you accountable to these principles.