

## Man Down, Man Up - Week 4

### Leaving a Legacy – Ben Foote

November 21, 2021

#### Group Creed

We come together as a Group with the goal of Spiritual Formation--encouraging one another to become the same kind of person that Jesus is, so that we can live out every part of our lives inside of His Kingdom.

#### // Bible References

Deuteronomy 31:7-8; Joshua 3:5, 4:5-7.

#### // Message Summary

This week's message from Pastor Ben Foote is the fourth in a 5 week series titled, *Man Down, Man Up*. In the previous weeks we unpacked that both men and women have been equally created in the image of God. As image bearers of the King, God shares His authority with us to have dominion over parts of His kingdom. This week Ben pushed us - specifically fathers, but all of us - to consider the type of legacy we will be leaving when we eventually depart this life. Traditionally, a legacy was not left only by those we consider to be heroic or legendary - the Muhammed Alis and Wayne Gretzkys of the world. Rather, it was that piece of all of us that would be carried by others into their future. As Ben put it, "*When the people closest to me look back on my life, what will they remember and repeat?*" Ben used the stories of Moses, Joshua and the Israelites to illustrate the kind of God-honoring legacies that can be passed from generation to generation.

#### // Biblical and Historical Context

The Book of Joshua is one of the early Biblical narratives, and details the history of the Hebrew people as they left captivity in Egypt and entered the Promised Land (c1375 BC). As Moses prepared to pass on his leadership of the people to Joshua, he reminded him to "be strong and courageous... for the Lord goes before you." Likewise, as Joshua prepared the people to take the land, he reminded them that "tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things..." Because of God's intervention, the people miraculously crossed the Jordan river. Twelve leaders were then instructed to take rocks from the middle of the riverbed and place them as a memorial at their campsite - a permanent and tangible reminder to the all people of the moment God had made a way for them, and a legacy of God's saving power. For many Christians, the rocks being taken from the riverbed to the campsite symbolize the transformation from death to life which is available in Christ.

## // Community Questions

1. What is one of your favorite historical sites? Why is it so memorable for you?
2. Thanksgiving and Christmas are usually filled with family traditions. What are some of your favorite traditions at this time? Do they have a special meaning or purpose?

## // Discussion Questions

1. As a group, read Deuteronomy 31:7-8. What is interesting to you in this passage?
2. According to the passage, what was to be the source of Joshua's courage?
3. Ben spoke about the legacy we each have received from our fathers. How would you describe the legacy your father left you?
4. When the people closest to you look back on your life, what do you think will they repeat and remember? What would you like them to repeat and remember?

If there is a disconnect between your two responses, what do you need to change?

5. The memorial stones collected by the 12 leaders were to be a reminder to God's greatness in their lives. What story do you have that points to God's greatness in your life? Share it with the group.

## // Challenge

When you are in a conversation with someone you care about this week, find an opportunity to connect the conversation with the greatness of God. Use the topic to remind yourself and others of His strength, His beauty, His grace, or another of His glorious traits.

If you are a father or mother, do this with your children. If not, you can make it someone else that you care about.

Begin to make this a habit in your life.