

# LIFE GROUP

Notes

## Session 2



**READING: Joshua 1:3-6 and Luke 4:1-15**

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### IN *Introduction*

God describes to Joshua precisely where he is to go. God lays out the opportunities and boundaries for this next season - it's defined and specific. When we step into God's purposes there is often a specific path that he has placed before us. This can shape how we pray the purposes of God into being.

QUESTION: What promises of God are most encouraging for you at the moment?

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### UP *Explore*

There is an interesting parallel between Jesus and Joshua. Numbers 33:51-54 describes the Lord's plan for his people to cross the Jordan, come out of the wilderness, and to drive out intruders and take possession of the land for the Kingdom of God. The Book of Joshua describes how Joshua does that. Then centuries later Jesus has a very similar call. He is baptised in the Jordan, spends some time in the wilderness and then re-enters the land to usher in God's Kingdom.

Both Joshua and Jesus are following God's call and God's promises for the promised land.

READ Luke 4:1-14. This is a time when Jesus fasts for 40 days.

- In verse 1, Jesus is described as being *filled* with the Holy Spirit. In verse 14, after a period of fasting, Jesus is described as acting in the *power* of the Holy Spirit. As Christians we are all filled with the Holy Spirit - but do you think of when you think of someone who is acting in the *power* of the Spirit?
- Heb 4:15 says that Jesus was tempted in *every* way. So the temptations recorded in Luke 4 would have been very real and significant. Look at the three examples of temptation and discuss what Satan's strategy and Jesus' response for each one
- Why do you think this time of tempting happened while Jesus was fasting?
- What do you think fasting communicates to God?
- A significant element of fasting is about our willingness to submit ourselves to God rather than living in our own strength. With that in mind, what are your thoughts and feelings about trying fasting this term?

### OUT *Impact*

As we look forward to this new exciting and challenging season in the life of our church, spend some time in prayer for those who are in leadership.

Take time to pray for one another - what are your own needs and challenges you are facing at the moment.

Pray for issues in the local community today that are speaking to you as a group.

Optional Extra Verse: Joshua 1:3 is a verse that is sometimes used when 'prayer walking' - ie a time of praying for a specific geographical area by walking around its border while you pray - plan a prayer walk for your group to do at some point this term.

