

Immerse - KINGDOMS *Week #1*

A 5-Day Series-Ending Devotional / Finding Rest in the Conquest

"The LORD your God is giving you a place of rest" — JOSHUA 1:13

Joshua begins with armies, fortified cities, uncertainty, battles, and conquest. Yet before the first battle is fought, God promises His people rest. These five days invite us to consider one question: **"Whose reign am I trusting enough to rest beneath?"**

01

DAY ONE

Rest Begins With His Presence

"For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go." — Joshua 1:9

Moses is dead. Joshua has an enormous assignment before him. Enemies occupy the land. The future is uncertain. God could have given Joshua a detailed explanation of everything that was about to happen. Instead, He gave Joshua something better: His presence.

"I will be with you"

Then God promises Israel a 'place of rest'. These two promises belong together:

I WILL BE WITH YOU. I WILL GIVE YOU REST.

Biblical rest is not primarily the absence of difficulty. It is the security of knowing who is with us in the difficulty. We often tell ourselves, "I'll Rest when this is over." When the problem is solved. When the decision is made. When the finances improve.

But God invites us to discover rest before our circumstances change, because our rest is rooted in His presence rather than our circumstance.

REFLECT

What situation is making it difficult for me to rest today?

WHERE AM I RESTING?

Instead of first asking God to change my circumstances, can I rest in this truth: The Lord my God is with me.

PRAYER

Lord, teach me to find my rest not in knowing what tomorrow holds, but in knowing You are with me today. Amen.

02

DAY TWO

Who is Your King?

"For the LORD your God is the supreme God of the heavens above and the earth below." — Joshua 2:11

Rahab lived inside Jericho. Its massive walls represented protection, strength, and security. Yet Rahab had heard about another King. She had heard what God had done in Egypt and how He delivered His people. While Israel was still learning to trust God, this outsider declared: "The LORD your God is the supreme God."

Rahab made a choice about where her allegiance would lie. That same choice runs beneath the entire story of KINGDOMS. God simply says: **TRUST ME.**

The question is: **WHOSE REIGN AM I TRUSTING ENOUGH TO REST BENEATH?**

REFLECT

When life becomes uncertain, what do I instinctively look toward for security?

WHERE AM I RESTING?

What might my response to uncertainty reveal about the kingdom I am trusting?

PRAYER

King Jesus, reveal the places where I have trusted another kingdom to give me what ultimately can only be found in You. Draw my heart again beneath Your reign. Amen.

03

DAY
THREE

Follow the King Who Goes Before You

"When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God...move out from your positions and follow it." — Joshua 3:3

Israel reaches the Jordan River at flood stage. God doesn't tell them to figure out how to cross. He goes before them. The ark represented God's presence. The order matters:
GOD MOVES. GOD LEADS. THE PEOPLE FOLLOW.

Even the priests stepping into the water was not an attempt to make God act. They were responding in faith to the God who had already spoken.
WE FOLLOW BECAUSE HE IS ALREADY FAITHFUL.
 Our obedience becomes the fruit of trust.

REFLECT

Where might I be trying to "make a way" rather than watching for where God is already leading?

WHERE AM I RESTING?

From "I have to figure this out" to "Lord, help me recognize and follow where You are leading."

PRAYER

Father, free me from the pressure of believing everything depends upon me. Give me eyes to see where You are leading and a heart willing to follow. Amen.

04

DAY
FOUR

When We Reach for Another Kingdom

Read Joshua 6:15-19; 7:1-13

Jericho falls. Israel has just witnessed the extraordinary power and provision of God. Yet immediately afterward, Achan secretly takes what God had forbidden. Why reach for something else when you have just witnessed God's provision?

Perhaps because that is the struggle of the human heart. We can trust God on Sunday and reach for our own security on Monday. Joshua reminds us how easily our hearts move from trusting the King to trying to secure ourselves. God invites us back beneath His reign.

REFLECT

Where am I trying to secure for myself what God may be asking me to entrust to Him?

WHERE AM I RESTING?

Don't rush to fix what God reveals. Allow the Holy Spirit to draw your heart back beneath the reign of the King.

PRAYER

Lord, You know how quickly my heart reaches for things I can see and control. Draw me back to You. Teach me again that You are enough. Amen.

05

DAY FIVE

Shabbat: Rest Beneath the King

"The LORD your God is giving you a place of rest." — Joshua 1:13

Shabbat is stopping because you trust God enough to believe that everything does not depend upon you. The kingdoms around us continually whisper: Keep moving, producing, accumulating, protecting and controlling. Don't stop—everything might fall apart.

But God says: **YOU CAN STOP.** Not because every problem is solved, nor your enemy has disappeared nor you know what tomorrow holds. You can stop because: **GOD IS STILL GOD.** Jesus said: "In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." — John 16:33

REFLECT

What am I carrying today as though everything depends upon me?

WHERE AM I RESTING?

Don't make Shabbat something else you have to accomplish. Come beneath the reign of Jesus and rest in His presence.

PRAYER

King Jesus, I release what I cannot control. I release my need to secure tomorrow. You are still God. You are still present. You are still King. Teach my soul to Shabbat beneath Your reign. Amen.

Immerse—KINGDOMS

Stop. Cease. Rest.
SHABBAT

Stopping because you trust God enough to believe everything does not depend upon you!
YOUR REST IS FOUND IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING.