

**[MESSAGE NOTES]**

**Week 1 — *Defining Moments* (Joshua 1:1-9)**

**Message Notes:**

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**[QUICK REVIEW]**

Looking at your notes from this week's message, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

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**[MY STORY]**

Our stories are made up of many different chapters and many of them begin with certain defining moments in our lives that change us or our trajectory forever. **What are one or two of the greatest defining moments of your life?** (*i.e. birth of a child, a marriage, a death, a job, etc.*)

**[DIGGING DEEPER]**

This week we journeyed with Joshua and the Israelites and saw God preparing them for a major defining moment—entering the Promised Land. Throughout History and the narrative of Scripture, God has always been at work through defining moments. Whether the entrance into the Promised Land, the call of Abraham or Moses, or the exile of the Israelites into Babylon, God is always present in these events and experiences working for the Good. **Read a couple of these passages in Scripture. *What are some common themes in God’s activity in the lives of his people?***

Luke 1:26-38

Acts 9:1-9

Genesis 12:1-8

Jonah 1:1-3

We all have defining moments in our life and faith, and God has surely been at work in them or in spite of them. **In the space below, in a separate journal or piece of paper, or in your group, process 1-3 of the most significant highs, lows, or even plateaus in your life that represent *Defining Moments*. Think through the most formative experiences, people, and events—whether wounds or joys—and write them out or share them.**

The Gospel speaks to every moment of our lives, not just the “spiritual” ones. **Take a look at your list of *Defining Moments*. Choose one and process through the following prompts in a journal or in your group.**

- 1) *What happened?* **NAME IT.**
- 2) *What did you feel? How did you respond? Why?* **UNDERSTAND IT.**
- 3) *How does the Gospel speak to this? Where was Jesus in it?* **REFRAME IT.**
- 4) *What did you learn and how can you grow from it? What, if any, healing occurred or woundedness is still lingering?* **EMBRACE IT.**
- 5) *How could this moment be used to point to Jesus?* **SHARE IT.**

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**[WEEKLY READINGS]**

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (*1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17*). As a church, we believe that! Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend’s message.

***Joshua 1***

***Genesis 12***

***Matthew 4***

***Exodus 3***