



Shiloh Baptist Church
Doing Life Together

A Church that Lives and Leaves a Legacy

JOSHUA 1
SERMON BASED SMALL GROUPS

Sunday, May 11th, 2025

This Week's Lesson

This week's lesson is based on the sermon from Sunday, May 4th, 2025, by Pastor Tim Brigham. This sermon was not part of a series but was instead part of our Homecoming / Anniversary celebration.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this week's lesson is to see that a church that lives and leaves a legacy makes a lasting impact on others and the world, often encompassing their values, accomplishments, and influence long after they are gone.

MEMORY VERSE FOR MAY

Matthew 13:23 – As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.

MONDAY DEVOTION

For Homecoming we usually go back to our home church to visit and see how things are going. For us, homecoming needs to mean going back to the basics, going back to home, to the start, doing the fundamentals. These ten things from the sermon are those fundamentals, the things we need to get back to doing.

Hears from God. v. 1-2

God is a speaking God, what is it that keeps us from hearing Him?

- Sin - Psalm 66:18
- Misunderstanding/wrong teaching - how God speaks- Hebrews 1:1-4
- Fear - John 10:27
- Doubt (lack of faith) James 1:6-7
- Pride - Hebrews 3:15
- Distracted/too busy - Matthew 6:33
- Shame - Romans 8:1-2

- Listening to others instead of God - Psalm 1:1¹

In today's world, does God speak audibly? No (Hebrews 1). God tells us He now speaks through His Son and His Word. The Holy Spirit acts as interpreter, allowing us to understand what God is saying through His Son and through His Word. When we listen to God, we need to understand that whatever we are hearing **MUST** align with the Word of God. God does not speak to us by any means in a way that contradicts His Word.

ACTION STEP: Look over the list above and identify if there are any of these things preventing you from hearing from God. Set aside time to pray and be sure to listen as well as speak. Ask God to help you remove any hindrance(s) that keep you from hearing Him.

Open to new things. v. 2-3

People who are not stuck in the thought process "We have never done it that way before!" When we always do things the same way we will always get the same results.

Tony Evans says, "Stop looking back at the good old days. Look ahead to the milk and honey of the promised land. Embrace new leadership.

Remember the past. Appreciate the good and learn from the bad. But in the walk of faith, you can't live with your eyes on the rear-view mirror. You've got to face forward."

TUESDAY DEVOTION

Moves - Doesn't stand still. v. 3-4

God wants His people (the Church) to be moving onward and upward in their Spiritual lives. That means there will be things we must face and conquer even though it is hard and entrenched. We are not left alone to try to handle it on our own.

At Shiloh we have a discipleship plan. It's in the weekly guide on the first inside page. We tell every person who goes through our membership class that our goal is to, "Move you, move you." A church doesn't sit still; it goes forward, sideways, or backwards.

This is not only corporately, but also individually. We don't just want Shiloh to move forward; we want every member of Shiloh to move forward. Some of us have been members for years; are we closer to Jesus now than we were in the past? Are we moving? If we aren't moving forward, we're drifting – drifting away from God or going backwards.

¹ <https://blessedtransgressions.org/eight-hindrances-gods-voice/>

Expects God to use them (us). v. 5

The people of God are to be living a legacy and leaving a legacy for the future. In order for this to happen, we must be walking in the Spirit and live in the awareness and expectation that God desires and intends to work through us.

You can't be successful for God as verse five says if you aren't doing anything for God. There is nothing that can stop us from accomplishing God's purpose. No man can stand against us. Do we believe that? Do we expect God to use us to make disciples? Do we expect to hear from Him? Do we expect to accomplish His mission?

WEDNESDAY DEVOTION

Courageously and lovingly stands for righteousness. v. 6-7

In order to be a people that is utilized by Jesus to make a difference in our community and our sphere of influence, we must know who we are in Christ and what Christ calls us to be. We are to be holy as He is holy. Therefore, we must be courageous to do what is right and be right as we go about our daily activities. It is easier to tell others how they need to be and live without being that way ourselves. As we encourage and lead others to know and walk with Jesus, we must not forget we are to do that Lovingly! That is to be careful our words, actions, and attitudes demonstrate grace and patience in the process as we guide them to follow Jesus.

Too often we see sin in others much more clearly than we see our own. We want to usurp the role of the Holy Spirit and become their conscience, and sometimes we go as far as to stand in the place of the devil by becoming their accuser. Our job is not to correct others until and unless we have corrected ourselves (beams and specks).

What does it mean to be strong and courageous? If we have to face a giant on our own, we're more like the soldiers who hid than we are like David, who KNEW that God was with Him. Courage is not the absence of fear; it's standing in the assurance that God is with us, He is sovereign, and we can trust Him.

Obeys what God says. v. 8

For far too long the church has been satisfied and somewhat proud of how much we know of God's Word, but we have failed in what God asks of us which is to obey His Word. Jesus said happy are you if you DO His words.

Read James 1:22.

Remember from Life Action what obedience is; doing what I'm told, when I'm told, with the right heart attitude.

THURSDAY DEVOTION

Makes God's Word their (*our*) priority. v. 8-9

We pledge allegiance to God's Word as the people of God and state that it is a lamp to our feet and the light for our paths. Is this just something we say or is it a reality? To be a people that lives and leaves a legacy God's Word must be our guiding light. It is not just something that happens naturally but must be an intentional and purposeful decision and commitment. Meditation is to reflect on God's Word and then allow it to realign our lives accordingly.

The Word will not be the priority of Shiloh if it isn't the priority of each of us. What is the church? WE ARE! So, what we believe and do is what Shiloh will be.

Invests in and prepares the people. v. 10-11

The church of Jesus is to look out for, encourage, and even fight for each other. We are a body and a family that should work as hard as we can to fight against dysfunction and work to develop in every believer the heart to follow Jesus and lead others to do so too. (Making disciples who make disciples.)

The mission of the church is not to make converts. Jesus commanded us to make disciples. Our D-groups have begun, with twenty-eight people taking part, but our hope and prayer is that many, many more of us will take part in becoming disciples who make disciples in the years to come. This is not a higher calling for the few; it is the purpose of every believer in Jesus Christ.

FRIDAY DEVOTION

Nurtures a servant's heart. v. 12-15

In order for the church to be effective in the world we live, we must develop the heart attitude Jesus had. Jesus did not come to be served, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for us. The church has been given by Jesus ways to serve one another. Jesus told us many ways to One Another one another which is to serve not based on what we want, but on the need that the other person/people have. We are to serve the church, but not only the church. We have a tremendous opportunity to make a difference in the world by being servants to those who are enemies of God and His church.

Jesus set so many examples in serving. Are we willing to do what He did to serve others? What limits do we set on serving others? If our service to others has limits, can we say that we love them like Christ loves us? What about serving our enemies?

Gives all for God's glory. v. 16-18

A church that lives and leaves a legacy, does not do it to make a name for themselves, but should in every aspect of life seek to make the name of Jesus known and magnified. As the Lord is with us and goes before us, may we walk in faith and obedience so that our friends and family see what God has and is doing in our lives and give Him glory. Giving God glory is to worship Him as He deserves. To worship God is to bow one's heart to Him. We can attend worship services, sing songs, give our money, even teach a lesson, and never worship God.

As we celebrate God's blessings on us for 121 years, may we individually surrender to live for and leave a legacy of following Jesus faithfully.

What will Shiloh look like 121 more years from now? That legacy is our responsibility today. Are you, am I, are we, individually and collective, leaving an impact? What kind of impact are we leaving?

SATURDAY DEVOTION

Review this week's devotions and then prepare for the sermon tomorrow by reading the passage for this Sunday. Bro. Tim will be preaching a message from Exodus 2:1-10 for Mother's Day.

Spend some time today praying for your small group and for our time of worship tomorrow.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SERMON BASED SMALL GROUPS

1. Use the sermon notes you have taken along with this handout to discuss the sermon with your family in your home as part of your daily devotions.
 - We would love to hear about conversations you have in your home around the table with your family – how is the Bible impacting your daily lives?
2. Use these resources to help you apply the sermon in your daily life, at work, school, home, at Walmart and Waffle House, etc. Remember, sermons aren't events to be attended. The Word is not for information, it is for transformation. The sermon is meant to be obeyed.
 - Talk with your family about how to successfully apply the sermon in your daily life. Look for "teachable moments" when real life events happen and discuss how we should react and respond according to Scripture.
 - When you are successful at applying Scripture in a real-life situation, share it with one another.
3. Use these resources and your daily experiences with your small group the following week; discuss what God showed you through applying the sermon; discuss how you have grown, and areas you are struggling and want the small group to pray for you in and hold you accountable.
 - Be a confidant for your fellow class members. Don't ever let a matter of prayer become a morsel of gossip. Be trustworthy and watch how God uses your integrity and faithfulness as a group to help you grow closer to Him and to one another.