
they are willing to trust God and submit their wills to His. And that choice goes against our fallen nature.

What was true in Joshua's day is true now. Herman Melville summed up the essence of spiritual battle like this: "All of God's commands are hard, because, in order to obey God, we must first disobey ourselves, and it is in this disobeying ourselves wherein the difficulty of obeying God consists." Or, in more common terms, each of us insists on having things our way.

The choice Joshua placed before Israel at the end of the book bearing his name is the central choice in every story of the Bible: triumph through trusting obedience or defeat through defiant disobedience. Trust and obey or go our own way. As you read through Joshua, look at Israel's choices and the outcome brought by obedience. Then, as you read on, contrast Israel's triumph in Joshua with the misery and judgment brought by disobedience in the Book of Judges.

We triumph in the end, when we surrender at the start. The best example is Jesus Christ. The eternal triumph He won on the cross began with the words, "Not my will, but yours be done." All Scripture testifies of our Savior, who leads us in His triumph through trusting surrender to the Father's will.

Prepare for victory. Bow before your Creator as you begin the New Year.

Prayer for ...

- **Northpoint:** May God give our church a united heart and clear vision of our role in His kingdom work in Corona and the world.
- **Local Outreach:** Settlement House and Empty Bowls, helping the homeless.
- **Missions:** Pastor Antonio Camarillo (Barnabas Association): Mount Sinai Baptist Church, Carranza, near Mexicali, Mexico

Need to pray with someone?

It is our privilege to pray for you personally. Share your prayer requests

- By email at prayer@northpointcorona.org
- By phone, at 951.734.1335
- On a Response Card in the pew during the worship service

Prayer Team members are available after every worship service.



prayer *life!*

Bible Reading Plan and Prayer Guide

(Year TWO) January 2016

If it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. —Joshua 24:15

The Choice

With the Book of Joshua, we start the year in triumph. After 40 years of wandering in the desert, Israel finally entered the Promised Land. But like all triumphs, the conquest of Canaan was primarily spiritual. And, like all spiritual battles, the central issue was who God is and how to respond to Him.

The 40 years Israel wandered in the desert were years of indecision. The Lord had chosen Israel as His people, but they hadn't completely decided that He would be their God. Idols from Egypt were stashed in their baggage, just in case this new God didn't measure up. Yes He had delivered them out of slavery in Egypt, but would He continue to deliver?

Or would His demands be more than they preferred to pay? After all, the Lord demanded complete obedience. Receiving the blessings He promised required letting Him be in charge. Letting Him define right from wrong. Giving Him the right to decide reward and punishment, as He deemed best. As far as Israel was concerned, the jury was still out on which god would receive their complete allegiance.

Israel never triumphed militarily until they were willing to surrender spiritually and let the Lord call the shots. Notice this central fact as you read through Joshua. Victory came only after Israel was willing to trust God and submit to Him without reservation. Disobedience brought only failure.

But God, the author of all freedom, gives each generation—indeed each person—the choice to obey Him or not. Spiritual triumph is continually in the balance, as each person decides if

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Reading and Prayer Schedule (Year TWO)

January 2016

Sunday: Church & Ministry	Monday: Home & Family	Tuesday: School or Job	Wednesday: Neighbors & Community	Thursday: Nation	Friday: World & Kingdom	Saturday: Praise for God's Blessings
<p><i>As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.</i> —Isaiah 55:10-11</p>					<p>1) Read: Joshua 1 Pray for ... God to establish His rule in the United States, by filling the Church with His Spirit, and establishing strong Godly leaders.</p>	<p>2) Read: Joshua 2 Return Thanks for ... God's constant faithfulness in giving us a New Year of life, liberty, & blessing even in difficult times.</p>
<p>3) Read: Joshua 3 Pray for ... John Sloan, our Lead Pastor, to feed us from God's Word and lead us in His will.</p>	<p>4) Read: Joshua 4 Pray for ... Your parents and brothers and sisters: May God provide what they need so they grow in His grace.</p>	<p>5) Read: Joshua 5 Pray for ... Your spiritual example and testimony, so those around you will see Christ in you.</p>	<p>6) Read: Joshua 6 Pray for ... Creative ways & good opportunities to get to know the neighbors. Pray for Christ's love to shine through you.</p>	<p>7) Read: Joshua 7 Pray for ... The leaders of our state & federal governments to obey God's will and turn their heart of to honor Him as Lord & Savior.</p>	<p>8) Read: Joshua 8 Pray for ... The Lord to reign in the affairs of men throughout the world. May God's justice, righteousness, truth, and grace cover all the earth.</p>	<p>9) Read: Joshua 9 Praise God for ... His provision for your daily needs and answers to your prayers</p>
<p>10) Read: Joshua 10 Pray for ... God to use Scott Williams, Adult & Family Pastor to equip us for service & cultivate our fellowship as Christians.</p>	<p>11) Read: Joshua 11 Pray for ... God to protect your spouse (or your parents) and children (or siblings) and keep them in His will</p>	<p>12) Read: Joshua 12 Pray for ... The integrity & success of your school or workplace: May God's Spirit use you to lead others to follow in His ways.</p>	<p>13) Read: Joshua 13 Pray for ... The salvation of your neighbors across the street. Ask God for opportunities to connect with them.</p>	<p>14) Read: Joshua 14 Pray for ... God to bring the Gospel to every household in America & to guide you to someone He wants to reach through you.</p>	<p>15) Read: Joshua 15 Pray for ... The Lord to reign in the affairs of the nations of Europe, North, Central, & South America.</p>	<p>16) Read: Joshua 16-17 Give Praise ... To God for the beauty of creation and His sovereign goodness in your life.</p>
<p>17) Read: Joshua 18 Pray for ... God to use Brent Whitefield, Pastor of Outreach, to equip us to reach our community add new believers.</p>	<p>18) Read: Joshua 19 Pray for ... Your church family (friends and prospective friends at Northpoint) to grow in God's grace & display it to others.</p>	<p>19) Read: Joshua 20 Pray for ... Your leaders, coworkers and friends: May they come to know Christ & His love</p>	<p>20) Read: Joshua 21 Pray for ... The neighbors you interact with most regularly: Ask God to create moments when you can tell them of your hope in Christ Jesus.</p>	<p>21) Read: Joshua 22 Pray for ... God to transform our education system, media, & businesses, so they honor Christ & uphold Biblical truth.</p>	<p>22) Read: Joshua 23 Pray for ... God to raise up new generations of missionaries to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth.</p>	<p>23) Read: Joshua 24 Thank God List five things in your life that God has given you, then tell God thanks for each one.</p>
<p>24) Read: Judges 1 Pray for ... God to use our Youth Pastor, Jonathan Clubb, to lead our students to love Christ, trust Him, and follow His ways.</p>	<p>25) Read: Judges 2 Pray for ... Seek God's eternal blessing for your extended family: uncles, aunts, cousins, & their families.</p>	<p>26) Read: Judges 3 Pray for ... Ask Christ to reveal Himself through you to your fellow students or those you serve through your job.</p>	<p>27) Read: Judges 4 Pray for ... Spiritual, physical, and emotional safety for local community workers, city leaders, teachers, police & fire departments.</p>	<p>28) Read: Judges 5 Pray for ... God to use His blessings on our nation to serve others & glorify Himself, so that our wealth & freedom serve others and honor Him.</p>	<p>29) Read: Judges 6 Pray for ... God to protect & build His Church in Middle East & to establish liberty, stability, & peace in that region.</p>	<p>30) Read: Judges 7 Thank God for ... Your family and friends. They are special gifts from Him to you.</p>
<p>31) Read: Judges 8 Pray for ... God's guidance for a Pastor of Worship to lead us to worship God & give ourselves to Him in faith, joy, & love.</p>	<p>How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word! What more can He say than to you He has said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?</p>					