



Renewing Our Commitments

Chairman Johnny Williams | Joshua 1:1-11 (KJV)

THE BIG IDEA

Renew your commitment to God through courage, obedience, daily study, and shared responsibility.

Lesson Summary

Chairman Johnny Williams teaches Renewing Our Commitments from Joshua 1:1-11. After Moses' death, Joshua receives the responsibility to lead Israel across the Jordan into the land God is giving them. The leader changes, but God's purpose continues. Joshua's confidence rests on the Lord's promise to be with him.

The class connects strength and courage with obedience. Joshua must keep God's instruction before him, meditate on it day and night, and put it into practice. The discussion also emphasizes the difference between confidence and arrogance, the value of learning under a mentor, and the responsibility to teach others with patience and love.

Joshua listens before giving instructions. He calls the officers, directs preparations, and helps the people move together. The lesson challenges families, church members, and leaders to renew their commitments through practical action and clear communication. Learning God's Word should shape both how we live and how we lead.

Memory Verse

"Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed:"

Joshua 1:9 (KJV, excerpt)

The verse continues with God's promise to be with Joshua wherever he goes.

[Read the Scripture \(KJV\)](#) | [Lesson recording on YouTube](#)

Prepared from the September 6 Sunday School transcript, including Chairman Johnny Williams' teaching and the class discussion with Pastor Bernard Hamp. Times refer to the supplied lesson transcript. The lesson recording is available on YouTube.



Detailed Lesson Notes

1. God's work continues through a change in leadership

Joshua 1:1-2 opens after Moses' death. God gives Joshua a clear assignment: lead the people across the Jordan. The lesson recognizes the importance of honoring the previous leader while accepting responsibility for the work ahead. A season of change calls for renewed commitment, not the abandonment of God's purpose.

Recording: 13:37-18:02

3. Let God's presence strengthen your confidence

In Joshua 1:5, God promises to be with Joshua as He was with Moses. The assignment is demanding, but Joshua will not be abandoned. The lesson places confidence in God's faithfulness. Courage grows as we remember who is with us, rather than pretending we already know everything.

Recording: 25:14-26:33

5. Prepare others through patient mentorship

The discussion highlights what Joshua learned while serving with Moses. Give those you mentor real responsibility, clear boundaries, and room to learn from mistakes with support. Training people includes listening to their ideas and helping them grow, rather than expecting them to copy every personal preference.

Recording: 26:34-31:37

2. Respond to the promise with action

God describes the land as a gift, yet Joshua and the people must go forward. The class applies this to active faith: receiving an opportunity also calls for preparation, effort, and obedience. Identify the next faithful step instead of treating belief as a reason to remain passive.

Recording: 15:48-20:27; 23:30-24:44

4. Lead with integrity and a willingness to learn

The class names listening, patience, honesty, and the ability to follow as leadership qualities. Chairman Williams distinguishes confidence from cockiness and stresses integrity. A leader can be assured of the direction while still listening carefully, noticing people's needs, and remaining willing to learn.

Recording: 11:23-13:20

6. Be courageous enough to obey

Joshua 1:6-7 joins strength and courage to faithfulness to God's instruction. The class explains turning neither right nor left as staying on the path God has given. Leadership requires steadiness when competing opinions pull in different directions. Keep God's Word central to your decisions.

Recording: 30:42-35:08



Study, Practice, and Lead Together

7. Teach God's Word with love

During the discussion, Pastor Hamp warns against delivering Scripture out of anger or using it to beat people down. Faithful instruction should communicate compassion and love. Being firm about God's Word does not give a leader permission to humiliate the people being taught.

Recording: 35:20-37:34

9. Carry God's promise into the next challenge

Joshua 1:9 repeats the call to strength and courage because the Lord will be with Joshua wherever he goes. Chairman Williams encourages the class to take God's Word into everyday life. A hard assignment or a setback is an occasion to remember that promise and continue faithfully.

Recording: 39:16-40:48

8. Study, meditate, and put the Word into practice

Joshua 1:8 instructs Joshua to keep the Book of the Law in his mouth, meditate on it day and night, and observe what it says. Reading is meant to shape daily choices. Return to Scripture regularly, think about its meaning, and choose a concrete way to obey it.

Recording: 38:03-38:53

10. Listen, prepare, and move together

In Joshua 1:10-11, Joshua directs the officers to tell the people to prepare provisions for crossing the Jordan within three days. The class emphasizes order, shared responsibility, and clear communication. Listen to the instructions, involve the people who must carry them out, and prepare together before moving forward.

Recording: 40:54-46:22

Life Application

- Name one commitment to God that needs fresh attention and choose a practical next step.
- Read Joshua 1:1-11 during the week and connect one instruction to a daily decision.
- Practice listening before giving directions at home, at work, or in church.
- Encourage someone you are mentoring and give them a manageable responsibility with support.
- Share important instructions clearly, invite questions, and work toward unity.
- Speak truth with compassion, especially when you are frustrated.



Prayer and Personal Reflection

Lord, renew our commitment to You. Give us courage to obey Your Word and confidence in Your presence. Teach us to listen, study faithfully, and put what we learn into practice. Help us lead with patience, prepare others with care, and communicate so we can serve together. Guide our next steps. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Which commitment will you renew this week, and what step will you take to practice it?

ONE COMMITMENT FOR THIS WEEK

My commitment: _____

My next step: _____

[Read the Scripture \(KJV\)](#) | [Lesson recording on YouTube](#)



Sunday School Questions

Name: _____ Date: _____

Choose one answer for each question. Use the website to submit your answers and reflection privately to the church.

1. What assignment did God give Joshua after Moses died?

- A. Return alone to Egypt
- B. Wait for the people to choose a different leader
- C. Lead the people across the Jordan into the land God was giving them
- D. Stop preparing the people for the journey

2. What promise in Joshua 1:5 supported Joshua's new responsibility?

- A. God would be with him as He had been with Moses
- B. Joshua would never need help from anyone
- C. The people would never ask questions
- D. There would be no need for obedience

3. What was Joshua instructed to do with the Book of the Law?

- A. Read it only at important ceremonies
- B. Change it whenever the people disagreed
- C. Leave its instructions entirely to the officers
- D. Meditate on it day and night and do what it says

4. What approach to training others did the class emphasize?

- A. Keep every responsibility for yourself
- B. Give responsibility and room to learn, with guidance and support
- C. Expect a new leader to know everything immediately
- D. Correct every difference in personal style as a failure

5. What did Joshua tell the officers to have the people prepare?

- A. A return journey to Egypt
- B. A new set of laws
- C. Provisions for crossing the Jordan within three days
- D. A vote on whether Moses should return

6. EXTRA CREDIT - Which four reminders did Chairman Johnny Williams give at the close of his lesson?

- A. Get back to the basics; remember the rules; learn the law; practice the principle
- B. Remember the journey; count the people; choose the officers; cross the river
- C. Listen to the people; write the plan; divide the work; check the results
- D. Read the promise; name the challenge; gather the leaders; wait for agreement