



# CORNERSTONE CHAPEL

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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#### Women's Ministry Fall Retreat

Women's Retreat registration continues.

You may make deposits or payments by check or online by clicking on the Give tab and select Women's retreat at [cornerstone23.org](http://cornerstone23.org) If you selected a payment plan we will let you know by email of your current balance and when payments are due.

#### Cornerstone YOUTH Schedule

Sunday, **October 6 & 27<sup>th</sup>**, 6-8

Sunday, **November 3 & 15<sup>th</sup>**, 6-8

Sunday, **December 1 & 15<sup>th</sup>**, 6-8

**Questions -> Tina Culver**

Small Groups -> Sign Up Today!

## GOING DEEPER QUESTIONS (LIFE GROUP)

- What stood out to you about this message and why?
- Right from the start of verse 1 we are provided a peak into what was going to happen at Ai. Considering the words of both Jesus and Paul, why is the greater importance to be right with God in our hearts before focusing on how we are living? How can we have faith without works? Can someone have works without faith? **(Point I)**
- Why do you think Joshua did not seek or wait for God's leading for the destruction of Ai? Was it wrong for Joshua to move forward as he did? How would Chapter 7 unfold had Joshua sought God first? **(Point II)**
- How prone are we to default to the prayer of Joshua and the Elders? Do we look to blame God more than ourselves? Do we act as *entitled* children in God's family? **(Point III)**
- After the 36 died, Joshua puts Israel through the lottery. During all of this why didn't Achan confess before the lot fell to him? Had Achan repented and pled for God's mercy, would he and his family had lived? What are some things sin has cost you / family? How serious do we take our sin and God's invitation to deal with it now? **(Point IV-VI)**

## NOTES (PERSONAL)

### Introduction

(Joshua 6 RECAP)

*At God's direction, Joshua leads the people in a series of marches around Jericho.*

*Once God brought the walls down, directions were given for the things devoted to destruction.*

*Jericho was the first of the strongholds to fall, a victory was celebrated as Israel prepared for the next battle.*

Questions:

[damianmericka@live.com](mailto:damianmericka@live.com)

## MESSAGE OUTLINE

Title: **Ai (Part 1)- The Cost of Turning from God's Invitation**

Series: **Joshua: Salvation Through Judgment**

Text: **Key Passage-> Joshua 7:1-26**

Main Idea: **God is present and at work all around us!**

### **I. Faith Without Works (Joshua 6:27-7:1).**

- Achan violated the command to keep himself from the things devoted to destruction (v. 1 – **See Joshua 6:18**)
  - The outside will eventually show what is on the inside.
    - Jesus -> **See Matthew 23:25-28**
    - Paul -> **See Philippians 2:12-18**

*God pours into us transforming our hearts; we nurture it outward transforming our behavior (Faith / Works)*

### **II. One Member affects the Many Members (Joshua 7:2-5)**

- Joshua sends men to spy out the land (v.2)
  - The spies bring back a confident report; however, being overconfident they advise a furlough. (v.3)
- Without inquiring of the Lord, Joshua sends three thousand men who engage Ai only to flee in defeat. All return except for 36 who were slain. (Vv.4-5)

### **III. Sick, the Body looks for Answers (Joshua 7:6-9)**

- Joshua and the Elders fall on their face with torn clothes and dust on their heads before the Ark of the Lord. **They default to where our hearts so readily do as well:** (Note -> Exodus 23:22)
  - *Why did you let this happen?*
  - *We would be better off where we were.*
  - *Now we are disgraced.*
  - *Our enemies have an advantage / going to get worse!*
  - *What now of your Name and Reputation?*

### **IV. The Diagnosis is Given (Joshua 7:10-15)**

- God *redirects* Joshua's focus (v.10)
- God *reveals* the issue (Vv.11-12)
- God *prescribes* the solution (Vv.13-15)

### **V. The Whole Family is Treated (Joshua 7:16-21)**

- God, knowing who sinned, has the whole Nation go through a lottery until Achan is identified (Vv.16-18)
- Joshua addresses Achan as a father does a son, (v.19)
- **Achan confesses he saw, coveted, took and hid.** (Vv. 20-21)
  - **See -> I John 2:15-17**
  - **See -> Romans 7:7 (God's No Vs our I Want)**

### **VI. The Cost of Sin / Rejecting God's Invitation (Joshua 7:22-26)**

- Achan, his family and possessions are stoned / burned. A monument is erected as witness to take seriously the Holiness of God.
- **Note -> Matthew 22:1-14 / 1 Peter 2:24 / Ephesians 2:4-6**

