

Faithful in the Details

Read: Joshua 21:1-45

Main Idea: You can trust God with the smallest details of your life, because He never leaves His work unfinished.

Key Verses: “Not one word of all the good promises that the LORD had made to the house of Israel had failed; all came to pass.” (**Joshua 21:45**)

Key Principles

- God is never annoyed by children who take Him at His word, so boldly ask Him for all that He has promised instead of a fraction of it.
- The way God answers is as much a gift as the answer itself, even when His provision arrives differently than we expect or desire.
- A church that treasures the Word of God will gladly provide for the people who teach it and lead by it without having to be coerced or manipulated.
- The tribes gave up cities from land they had waited 500 years to receive, which reminds us that generosity you can't feel isn't really generosity.
- Keeping a record of what God has already done is the best cure for present fear, because the God who kept every promise in the past has not changed.
- Rest is already secured for you in Christ, so your work now is not to earn it but to live in what He has already finished.

Discussion

1. Why did the Levites have to ask for cities God had already promised them? What has God told you to ask Him for that you still have not asked?
2. Why did the priests receive 48 scattered towns instead of one territory of their own? How do you respond when God answers you in a way you did not expect or want?
3. What makes it hard to give away something that genuinely belongs to you? Where is God asking you to do that right now?
4. How should the fact that these towns supported Israel's teachers shape the way you support the work of your own church? What about those who serve as missionaries?
5. Which promise of God are you most tempted to quietly doubt? What would change if you believed Joshua 21:45 applied to it?
6. What evidence from your own life proves God has kept His word to you? Who will you tell about it this week?

Prayer

- Praise God for the promises He has already kept in your family and in this church.
- Pray for:
 - Faith to boldly ask God for all He has promised you, your family and your church.
 - Generosity towards the ministry of the Word of God in our church, community & world.
 - Rest for anyone still striving to earn what Christ finished.

Faithful in the Details
Joshua 21

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| I. | <u>Believe</u> the God who <u>speaks</u>. | 21:1-8 |
| 1. | <u>Ask</u> Him to <u>provide</u> . | 21:1-3 |
| 2. | <u>Trust</u> how He <u>answers</u> . | 21:4-8 |
| II. | <u>Obey</u> the God who <u>assigns</u>. | 21:9-42 |
| 1. | Give from your <u>own resources</u> . | 21:9-40 |
| 2. | Give what the <u>work requires</u> . | 21:41-42 |
| III. | <u>Praise</u> the God who <u>fulfills</u>. | 21:43-45 |
| 1. | <u>Receive</u> God's <u>grace</u> . | 21:43 |
| 2. | <u>Enjoy</u> God's <u>peace</u> . | 21:44 |
| 3. | <u>Remember</u> God's <u>record</u> . | 21:45 |

NEXT WEEK:
One People, One Lord
Joshua 22