

PARENT PAGE CHARACTER LESSON 20		EQUIPPED AND EXALTED (JOSHUA)
Joshua 1:1–18	Joshua 1:8	Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. Joshua 1:8
BIBLICAL PASSAGE		MEMORY VERSE

Have you ever followed in the footsteps of an incredible leader? It can be intimidating, and a little scary. There may be pressure to perform or make changes that might be unwelcome. Teenagers today must decide if they will assume responsibilities of leadership among their areas of influence and recognize how their spiritual walk will shape the way they lead.

Read Joshua 1:1–18. Moses is dead and the Israelites are faced with new leadership under Joshua. The people of Israel loved Moses. Deuteronomy 34:12 says, “No one has ever shown the mighty power or performed the awesome deeds that Moses did.” Now that’s intimidating! But God

equipped Joshua and reminded him to lead the people with courage and boldness—not in his own power, but with the power of God. The key to Joshua’s leadership is found in Joshua 1:8 where he is challenged to meditate on and obey God’s Word. Because Joshua obeyed God, the people readily followed and were led into the promised land after 40 years of wandering in the desert.

Has God asked your teenager to assume a leadership position? God will always equip those He calls. He will give courage and strength to those who surrender and obey. Help reassure your child of this truth and commit to supporting them in their calling.

FAMILY DEVOTION TIME

Connect . . .

The family makes a list of the five most influential leaders of our time who are still living. Family members are encouraged to think beyond political leaders and include religious leaders, educational leaders, or celebrities. A family member asks: **What makes them a leader? Whether they are right or wrong, what are some of the convictions of those in leadership?**

Next, the family discusses: **Why would you or would you not follow these leaders? How would that person’s spiritual walk make a difference in whether you followed their leadership?**

Explore . . .

The family takes turns reading Joshua 1:1–18. Then, the family discusses: **How do you think Joshua felt following the leadership of Moses? Why do you think God repeatedly said, “Be strong and courageous”? What kind of fears do you think Joshua might have had?**

Transform . . .

The family takes turns responding to the statement: **It is fear, not problems that keep you in the wilderness.** A family member asks: **Do you sometimes feel unprepared to carry out a command that God has given you?** A family member states that just as a project at home requires using the right tools for the right job, God equips those He calls with the right tools to complete the task. Family members should be encouraged to be bold and to not fear being a leader in their world.

Pray that God will equip your family and embolden them to become leaders who make a difference in building the Kingdom of God.

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