



# POINT AFTER

## VICTORY

FALL 2021

In so many ways, this school year feels like a fresh start. Although schools still have much to contend with, many are enjoying a modicum of normalcy. It seems like “Victory”, the theme of our fall Bible Study in *Joshua*, is just what’s needed at this time. This is certainly true for Coaches Outreach. It felt like a win to be able to resume our Marriage Retreats this past summer. In total, 220 coaching couples gathered for a weekend of encouragement, healing, and challenge. After a summer off, being back together created an extra special atmosphere of joy and gratitude. But there was more! We came away with a sense of what lies ahead for our ministry and the call to **reach and lead the next generation of coaches.**

There were 68 new coaching couples at this summer’s retreats. What a blessing to speak into their marriages! We challenged them to pick up the mantle of their predecessors and make it their mission to transform the lives of their players, schools, and communities. And it is happening before our eyes. Some of these new coaches are starting Bible studies. In some cases, the children of coaches are now coaching and making their own impact in their schools. For example, a second-generation coach has started a Bible Study at Broken Arrow HS in OK and is already making a difference in young lives.

This was Joshua’s calling and burden. He was commissioned by God to lead a new generation into the Promised Land. It was no small task. It required unifying the offspring of an unbelieving nation, rallying them around God’s vision, and calling them to great sacrifice. The land was theirs to take. But it wouldn’t be handed to them. I took away **two enduring spiritual principles** from the first week of Joshua.

**First, move your feet.** In 1:3 God says, *“Every place your feet tread upon I have given to you....”* God’s promises and the future have to be stepped into. God told the next generation in 3:13, *“When the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth shall rest in the waters of the Jordan....”* The first step prompted the first miracle of the journey; the raging waters of the Jordan were parted. God essentially says, “Get your feet wet and I will make the ground dry.” We have to move. Dallas Willard wrote: “We like to quote verses like, ‘Without me, you can do nothing,’ which is absolutely true. But, we forget that if you do nothing it will be without me.”

**Second, get your mind right.** Joshua 1:8 says, *“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make*

*your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.”* By all accounts, Joshua was an exceptional leader. Good and practical insights for leading others abound on every page, but, none more essential than the simple and unwavering commitment to God’s Word. What God says has to consume our minds and dictate our actions. The Scripture must be the loudest voice in our heads as we live our lives. When we move our feet, they must be directed by its guiding light.

Joshua’s challenge is our challenge: Step into the future trusting God to act on our behalf...and, focus on God’s Word obeying it at every turn. At Coaches Outreach, we are stepping into new territory...new states, new schools, new studies, new cities...and the inner city. God is opening doors for His Word to penetrate hearts and transform lives in some very special places. We are excited to share with you some of the life-changing stories we are witnessing and how God is parting the waters for us to step into the future and reach the next generation.



**PETE CHIOFALO**  
President



# FALL PLAYBOOK

MARK CHALEMIN | DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

We're very excited to bring VICTORY!, a study of *Joshua*, to our coaches this Fall. We're hearing our coaches relate to the leadership pressures and principles which fill the pages of this action-packed book. From his earliest years as Moses' protégé, to his final years with Israel in the Promised Land, Joshua exuded a passion for and devotion to the Lord.

Joshua models biblical leadership. Like coaches, Joshua prepared his "team" to face diverse and difficult challenges.

Often, these challenges called for creative and daring strategy. Other times, he struggled to achieve unity among a diverse people with a range of needs and desires. Twice, he faced crushing defeat due to over-confidence and needed humility to achieve a comeback.

More personally, God's promise to Joshua and the Israelites echoes God's promise to all believers. Like the Israelites, believers have inherited a great blessing (Ephesians 1-3).

However, to enjoy these blessings, we must fight. We must follow the Lord into various "battles," ranging from our attitudes and speech, to family and work (Ephesians 4-6). Like Joshua, we will only enjoy God's blessings if we obey God's Word.

That's why, more important than all his leadership principles, Joshua models obedience. When he faced impossible odds, he obeyed. When he knew he and the whole nation would look foolish, he obeyed. When God called him to defy military wisdom, he obeyed.

That obedience led him into battle, motivated him through the battle, and gave him victory in the battle.

In VICTORY!, we've challenged our coaches to ask the Lord to show them one spiritual battle. Then, using the principles and motivation found in *Joshua*, we challenge them to fight until they experience their own victory. For that reason, we believe *Joshua* could become one of the most personally life-transforming studies ever.

## GENERATIONAL IMPACT

MIKE BREEDEN | DIRECTOR OF FIELD MINISTRIES

This study of *Joshua* speaks to a coach like no other study. Moses led the Hebrew people out of Egypt and "coached" up a young Joshua to lead the next generation. The coaching relationship is a generational endeavor. Let me tell you about a couple of coaches impacting the next generation:

*First*, Coach Gonzalez, from Lovington High School, came to faith as a teenager, but never took that next step of a public baptism until this fall. He made a choice to model his commitment for both his fellow coaches and athletes. This act of obedience will far outweigh his impact on Friday nights.

Coach Gonzalez is making a difference, obeying God's word, and impacting the next generation.

*Second*, Bill Blankenship, and his son, Josh, coach in the same district in Oklahoma. Bill is the head coach at Owasso High School, and Josh is a first year head coach at Broken Arrow High School. Recently, Josh invited his whole team to church – totally optional for them to attend.

Of the athletes that chose to attend, ten made public professions of faith, and two were baptized that very morning! These young men professed their decisions of faith in front of the team during a team meeting. As a



result of this obedience, coaches emptied the ice trough, filled it with water, and baptized seventeen more players, as well as a coach!

Josh Blankenship is a product of the next generation's impact of a coach. And he is continuing the example set by his father.

God is moving in the lives of coaches throughout our country and the fields are ripe for the harvest.





# 2021 MARRIAGE RETREATS

*"This weekend convinced me that my marriage is worth fighting for."*



*"Without this weekend I don't know if my marriage would make it through the upcoming season."*



*"Our lives and the lives of our children have been forever changed."*



*"We reconnected and found our joy for each other."*

The story of Joshua, similar to Moses, records a group of people encountering a "water crossing." Quite simply, a water crossing delivers a person from one place to another. While encountering the 2021 Marriage Retreats, we traveled along and saw just that!

Our coaching couples were delivered from an extended time of isolation and uncertainty to a refreshing season of fellowship and connection.

At each crossing, couples were equipped and empowered to step into their future. And, as a result of their enthusiasm, input, and requests, CO is masterminding new bridges that will travel further and more effectively with our Bible Studies, Athlete Studies, and Reach groups.

Much like Moses passing the staff to Joshua, these coaches are passing on the importance of a godly marriage to the next generation.

Please pray for us as we step ahead and ford the way for the future!



*"My wife and I found each other this weekend."*



*"I feel such an overwhelming sense of trust and belonging among the other couples here."*



*"We have been equipped with new tools and mindsets to rebuild our marriage."*

*"It occurred to me that I have not truly loved my wife as Jesus loved the church."*



*"This weekend was our first time in 5 years we had a weekend to spend to ourselves."*



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## GIFT HONORARIUMS & MEMORIALS FALL 2021

### *In Honor of...*

**Tommy & Janice Maxwell**

Joe & Nancy Foran

Frank & Nancy Sierra

**Huellen Watson**

Huel Sills

### *In Memory of...*

**Alan Newberry**

Waylon & Cheryl McMullen

**Florence Ann Kleine**

David Kleine

**Jackie Humphrey**

Steve Humphrey

**Gail Jozwiak**

Chris & Briana Haney

**T. Max Champion**

Rodney & Julie Nobles

**THANK YOU!**



## 2022 SUMMER MARRIAGE RETREATS

JUNE 3-5

Drury Plaza Riverwalk // San Antonio, TX

JUNE 10-12

Sheraton Overland Park // Kansas City, MO

JUNE 17-19

Drury Plaza // Santa Fe, NM

JUNE 24-26

Hilton Garden Inn // Granbury, TX

JULY 8-10

DeGray Lake Resort // Bismarck, AR

save the date!  
registration opens  
03/01/2022