

## THE TESTIMONY OF PROCESS

### PART 2: JOSHUA & MOSES — COURAGE WITHOUT COMPARISON

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#### A. BACKGROUND

- **Text span:** *Joshua 1* → *Joshua 3*
- Part 1 taught us how God forms a man in the waiting (David). Part 2 now teaches us how God forms a man in transition (Joshua). Part 1 was David in obscurity. Part 2 is Joshua in transition.
- There is a unique wilderness that every man faces, not when he is waiting for his turn, but when his turn has arrived — and he must step into shoes he never asked for, in the wake of a legacy he never intended to replace. That is Joshua's wilderness.
- Between Moses and Joshua stands a man confronting:
  - the ending of an era
  - the weight of expectation
  - the pressure of comparison
  - the fear of inadequacy
  - the need for identity
- Part 2 asks the question: "Can you step up without trying to become the man before you?"

#### B. THE FIRST TEST — THE ENDING: WHEN GOD CLOSES A CHAPTER WITHOUT APOLOGY

(*Joshua 1:1–2*)

Moses is dead. And Joshua — the assistant, the second-in-command, the "guy behind the guy" — is now the leader. Sometimes God ends a season so you can enter the next one without leaning on yesterday's strength.

##### 1. **Biblical Insight:**

- God names endings plainly before He introduces beginnings.
- Transition creates internal earthquake — grief + responsibility at the same time.
- Joshua inherits the **mission**, not the **method**.
- Comparison is the first battle every successor faces.

2. **Application:** Every man will one day take responsibility where someone great once stood — father, boss, mentor, leader, previous version of yourself. How you navigate endings determines how you step into beginnings.

3. **Challenge:** Do not romanticise what God has closed. Honour the ending — then arise.

#### C. THE SECOND TEST — THE COMMAND: COURAGE ASSIGNED, NOT FELT

(*Joshua 1:6–9*)

Joshua wasn't just stepping up...he was stepping into **Moses' shadow**. And that's a heavy shadow. Joshua faced the pressure of comparison, and God didn't deal with it by giving Joshua a pep talk. Instead, He says: "*Be strong and courageous.*" Three times. Because fear

doesn't leave after one reminder. God teaches him that: **Courage isn't a feeling. Courage is a choice.**

**1. Biblical Insight:**

- "Be strong and courageous" is repeated three times — because fear rarely dies after one word.
- God does not soothe Joshua with flattery; He stabilises him with command.
- Courage is not an emotion; it is obedience under pressure.
- Meditation is God's antidote to impostor syndrome.

**2. Application:** Men often wait to "feel" courageous. God tells Joshua: "Start moving. The feeling will follow the obedience."

**3. Challenge:** Act in obedience this week where you still feel afraid.

**D. THE THIRD TEST — THE SHIFT: FROM STAFF TO ARK**

*(Joshua 1:10–11; Joshua 3)*

New season, new tool. Moses led with a **staff**. Joshua leads with the **Ark**. Moses' leadership looked dramatic, but Joshua's leadership looks different. Moses' leadership was about **miraculous moments**. Joshua's leadership was about **consistent steps**. Just because you don't lead like the man before you doesn't mean you're not God's man for this season. **Different season. Different tools. Same God.**

**1. Biblical Insight:**

- Moses' tool = Staff (personal, miraculous, spectacular).
- Joshua's tool = Ark (shared, structured, procedural).
- Founders divide seas; successors build systems.
- God's presence is unchanged; His methods shift.

**2. Application:** Many men remain stuck because they are still trying to use the "staff" from a previous season. God may now be calling you to structure, consistency, process — not spectacle.

**3. Challenge:** Don't imitate previous methods. Build the new system God has entrusted to you.

**E. THE FOURTH TEST — THE INTERNAL WAR: THE COURAGE TO DIFFERENTIATE**

*(Joshua 1:12–18)*

Before Joshua ever fought Jericho, he had to fight **the battle inside himself**. Am I enough? God had to teach Joshua: "**You don't need Moses' personality. You need My presence.**"

**1. Biblical Insight:**

- Joshua must honour Moses without becoming Moses.
- Gratitude anchors you; mimicry freezes you.
- Every successor faces the voice of comparison — "You are not him."
- True leadership is continuity of mission, not duplication of personality.

**2. Application:** You cannot lead effectively while living in someone else's shadow — not your father, not your old leader, not your former self.

**3. Challenge:** Name one area where you've been imitating someone else. Release it.

## **F. THE FINAL TEST — THE FIRST ACT: CROSSING THE JORDAN**

*(Joshua 3:1–17)*

Joshua's first leadership task is crossing the Jordan River. But this time, God does it differently. With Moses, God parted the Red Sea *before* they stepped in. With Joshua, God says: "**Tell the priests to step into the water first.**" In simple terms: "**Move first, miracle second.**"

### **1. Biblical Insight:**

- Moses said "Stand still..."
- God tells Joshua, "When you see the Ark move — move."
- Different verbs for different seasons.
- Obedience, not spectacle, opened the river.

**2. Application:** Your Jordan is the first step that proves you believe God is with you, not them. God is saying: "**Put your foot in the water. Let Me meet you in motion.**"

**3. Challenge:** Take one Jordan-like step this week: obedience before certainty.

## **G. THE PROMISE — PRESENCE AS THE CONTINUITY**

*(Joshua 1:5)*

The promise God gives every man in transition. "As I was with Moses, so I will be with you." God doesn't promise you another man's gifting — He promises you **His presence**. And His presence is enough.

### **1. Biblical Insight:**

- God grounds Joshua's courage not in gifting but in Presence.
- Continuity lives in God's faithfulness, not human similarity.
- Presence regulates fear and stabilises identity.

**2. Application:** When men internalise Presence:

- pressure drops
- comparison weakens
- identity clarifies

**3. Challenge:** Daily declaration: "**As You were with him... so You are with me.**":

So, brothers, let this be our commitment:

*Part 1: "While I wait, I will grow."*

*Part 2: "While I step up, I will not compare."*

Brothers... your testimony is not the role you step into. It is the transformation God does in you as you step.