

STRONG & COURAGEOUS: “When You Hit A Wall” - Rev. Jeremy Bates

Sermon Notes: October 26, 2025

Text: Joshua 6

Introduction

Ever felt stuck - like you've hit a wall and can't move forward? Whether it's fear, exhaustion, discouragement, or circumstances out of our control, we all face moments that test our faith. In this message from Joshua 6, Pastor Jeremy reminds us that God's promises don't mean we won't face obstacles, they mean the walls won't win! Together we'll discover how to keep walking when progress isn't obvious, how to “faith what you're facing,” and how God uses the walls in front of us to build strength within us.

“If I could have seen the land, I know I could have made it.” Florence Chadwick

Only God can speak in the PAST TENSE about battles that haven't even started yet!

- We aren't fighting FOR victory, we are fighting FROM victory
- The battle isn't for victory but to enact the strategy to realize the victory:
- John 8:36 & Romans 6:6,7 & 11,12

Obedience often looks ridiculous to those who can't see or hear what you see and hear!

Obstacles are Inevitable: Psalm 23:1,2 AND 4,5

“God has a promise prepared for you, but he wants to prepare you for the promise.”

Silence: Our MOUTHS can be our own WORST ENEMY: We don't need opposition to discourage us, we can discourage ourselves on our own sometimes!

God will often do something IN you before He does something FOR you.

- Can you keep walking in obedience when you don't see any sign things are changing?
- Can you keep trusting God when you don't see the answer you are hoping for?
- Can you stay faithful when He doesn't produce the miracle you are waiting on?

The first thing God wants to bring down aren't the walls of the city, but the walls in our heart

- Hebrews 11:3
- Faith (Heb: verb) = EMUNAH: Not just something you have, something you DO!
- “I'm FAITHING what I'm facing!”

We are tempted to give up when:

1) Our Perspective is Limited

2) Our Progress isn't Obvious

Just because your progress isn't obvious, it doesn't mean your faith isn't working;
keep walking because every lap is a declaration of “I TRUST YOU LORD!”



Life Group Discussion

Warm-Up:

This week we talked about the walls and obstacles that stand in our way. What is one wall you pushed through and were glad you did, and one wall you called it quits on. Were you happy you did or did you later regret it?
(Childhood piano lessons anyone? LOL!)

Study & Discussion:

Read Joshua 6

1) What resonated with you from the sermon? What challenged or surprised you? What questions do you have?

2) Florence Chadwick said, *"If I could see the land, I know I could make it."*
What's an area in your life right now where you wish you could "see the land"?
How does faith help you keep moving when you can't see the outcome?

3) Pastor Jeremy said, *"God has a promise prepared for you, but He wants to prepare you for the promise."* How have you experienced God using a difficult season to prepare you for something greater?

4) God could have had the wall down in preparation for the Israelites' arrival, but he had them march around it instead, How have past "wall experiences" shaped who you are today?

5) Obedience can often look ridiculous to those who can't see or hear what God is saying. What are some ways following Jesus might look ridiculous to our culture today? Have you ever had to do something obedient that others questioned or didn't understand?

6) Hebrew views faith as a VERB (emunah) rather than just something you possess. What does it mean to *"faith what you're facing"*? Are there any areas where you are faithing what you're facing right now?

PRAYER:

