

**March 22, 2026**

**Joshua: Strength and Courage**

**Second Chances**

**Joshua 8:1-35**

Joshua 8 consists of two different stories, both pointing to the same theme: God is a God of the second chance. The first story restores Israel to victory in the conquest of the land. The second story restores Israel to covenant fidelity. In both cases the people learn they are a holy community set apart from the rest of the world. God in His mercy provides a second chance for His people.

**Additional Verses:**

Exodus 17:8-13

Deuteronomy 8:3, 27, 28

John 3:16-18

Galatians 3:13, 28

Hebrews 4:14-5:4, 8:1-7, 10:1-18

**Outline:**

1. God provides a second chance for restoration.

2. God provides a second chance for fidelity.

**Study Questions:**

1. Why did Israel lose the first battle of Ai? How is the victory at Ai a sign of Israel's restoration?

2. Why does sin not have to be the final definition of who you are? Where have you seen God's second chance and restoration in your life?

3. How do the beginning of chapter 5 and end of chapter 8 act as bookends to this section of Joshua? What does this teach about the importance of worship?

4. Why is God's word important for believers? How does God's word give life? How does this impact your daily life?

5. In what ways is Jesus the ultimate fulfillment of God's word?

6. How does Joshua 8 point to Jesus?

7. How is the Holy Spirit leading you to respond to God today?