**Joshua Series**

**September 2014**

“Privilege and responsibility”

The book of Joshua is sandwiched between the first 5 books of the Bible (the “Pentateuch” or the books of Moses) and the historical books that start with Judges.

The last of the 5 books of Moses is Deuteronomy - recording Moses final ‘sermon’ before his death in which he charges the people of God to put into action God’s written commands.

Joshua is the first book in which the people of God are commanded to rely on the written Word(s) of God – whether they feel like it or not – and through doing so, bless the whole world.

**Outline of series:**

Part 1 September 14th

Joshua the person:

Who was Joshua, what experiences shaped his call?

Part 2 September 21st

Privilege and responsibility - promises and commands, blessings and obligations (Joshua 1)

Entering into the land of promise. The place of obedience

Part 3 October 5th

Holiness. Ai - A warning for a whole congregation (Joshua 7 & 8)

Part 4 October 12th

Self reliance. Gibeonites - A warning to leaders (Joshua 9)

Part 5 October 19th

Handing on the baton. Renewed covenant.

**Part 1**

Some study notes:

Read Deuteronomy 31 and 32.

The song of Moses: What resonance may this song have for the people of God today?

Joshua’s call and shaping…

40 years before the book of Joshua starts, what factors influenced Joshua’s life? Some are here:

Exodus 17; 8-16 (compare with Joshua 5; 13–15)

Numbers 11 (compare Numbers 27; 17-23)

Exodus 24; 13 & 32; 17-18

Exodus 33; 11

Number 13 & 14 (Joshua and Caleb spy out the land and bring faith-full report)

Some questions:

* When you first sensed a call of God on your life - what did you hear from Him?
* What specific experiences have you had through your life that have been lessons from God, and how have they shaped you?
* When did you last fall on your face before him (literally and/or metaphorically)?
* How do you meditate on God’s Word?
* What can you do to **act** on it?