



No More 'If Only': Embracing What God Has Given

Read Joshua 17

Listen to the Message 'No More 'If Only': Embracing What God Has Given' (20th October 2024) at www.elim.family/media

In this sermon, Pastor Jim encourages us to reflect on how we view God's provision in our lives, using the story of the tribe of Joseph from Joshua 17. The tribe, despite having received more land than others, came to Joshua asking for even more, claiming that they were numerous and deserved a greater portion. Pastor Jim reminds us that, like the tribe of Joseph, we can sometimes find ourselves asking God for more when He has already given us all we need to fulfill His purposes. It's easy to focus on what we don't have rather than on making the most of what's already in our hands.

Pastor Jim then challenges us to consider whether we are truly using what God has provided, whether in our personal lives, our work, or our church. He points out that the people of Joseph were hesitant to put in the work to clear the land they had been given, looking for an easier path. This is something we can all relate to—we often ask God for more opportunities, resources, or blessings, but may not be fully utilizing the ones we already have. Whether it's a leadership role we desire, a promotion, or even more material possessions, we are reminded to first take a hard look at how we are stewarding what has been entrusted to us.

Finally, Pastor Jim calls us to action, encouraging us to "clear the land" in our own lives. Just as the tribe of Joseph needed to overcome their fears and clear the forests in their territory, we too are called to step out in faith, work hard, and trust that God has already provided everything we need to succeed. Whether it's through serving others, taking on new responsibilities, or simply being more intentional with our resources, Pastor Jim reminds us that the growth and blessings we seek may already be within our reach—if we are willing to put in the effort.

Questions for reflection:

1. Am I making the most of the resources and opportunities God has already given me, or am I focused on asking for more?
2. What fears or obstacles in my life are preventing me from fully embracing what God has entrusted to me?
3. How can I contribute more to my church and community, using the gifts and time I already have?
4. Have I been seeking an easier path or avoiding challenges, when God might be calling me to step out in faith and work through the difficulties?
5. In what areas of my life do I need to shift my perspective from scarcity to abundance, trusting that God has already provided what I need?

If you have never accepted Jesus as your personal saviour and you would like to move from the margins to having a relationship with Him. Please speak to one of the pastors or leadership team, we would love to pray with you. Alternatively, go to www.elim.family/ihavedecided to find out more about giving your life to Jesus.