

Introduction — What's the world coming to?

We live in a day of uncertainty!

- Rapid change
- Technological explosion
- Moral chaos / increasing violence
- Family disintegration
- Global economic instability

Uncertain times tend to produce certain predictable fears!

- Fear of the unknown
- Fear of failure
- Fear of abandonment

Uncertain times are NOT new:

¹ After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, the LORD said to Joshua son of Nun, Moses' aide: ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them—to the Israelites.

³ I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses. ⁴ Your territory will extend from the desert to Lebanon, and from the great river, the Euphrates—all the Hittite country—to the Great Sea on the west. ⁵ No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

⁶ "Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their forefathers to give them. ⁷ Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go.

⁸ Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Joshua 1:1-9 (NIV 1984)

3 Keys to confidence:

1. Believing **God's** _____ for our future is the key to overcoming our fear of the _____.

Joshua 1:3-4
(see also - John 14:1-3)

Key word = _____

2. Appropriating **God's** _____ for victory is the key to overcoming our fear of _____.

Joshua 1:5, 7, 8
(see also - John 16:33, 1 John 4:4)

Key word = _____

3. Recognizing **God's** _____ with us is the key to overcoming our fear of _____.

Joshua 1:5, 9
(see also - John 16:13-14, Hebrews 13:5)

Key word = _____

Life Application Questions:

1. What are your top two fears about the future?
2. How does Joshua's life and time of uncertainty parallel today?
3. Read verses 3-5 out loud and identify the three promises God made to Joshua about his future, his enemies, and God's presence. Now discuss Jesus' promises that parallel these concepts for us as New Testament Christians.
4. Where do you need to grow in confidence? Read verses 7-9. How do your intake, meditation, and obedience to God's Word develop confidence in your life? Describe your spiritual diet and what steps God would have you take to grow in confidence.