



MESSAGE 3: TAKE OVER
CLAIMING YOUR TERRITORY

SUGGESTED PASSAGE: Psalm 115:16
 "The heavens are the Lord's, but the earth He has given to the human race."

MESSAGE GOAL: Within the Word of God are the steps to achieve the authority we have been granted by God. People in the kingdom are struggling to actively put the Word into action. They are trying to claim the authority without taking the steps for the territory. The problem isn't within the power behind the authority. It's the motion taken to claim the territory through God's kingdom authority.

SERMON IDEAS:

- Motion detectors. Although the power is supplied to them by the power company, no action occurs until motion is detected.
- The work of the Israelites under Joshua was only as strong as their faith to move forward. God had given them the authority, but they had to walk in it to enter the land.
- Giving up our past is hard, but it makes walking in the future easier. Walk into the future God has for you through the authority only He can grant.

INTRODUCTION: The stage has been set. The balcony is ready. The smoke machine is working perfectly. The crowd has quieted to a low murmur, eager for what is to come next in one of the most important parts of the high school rendition of Romeo & Juliet. But something is missing. Juliet is waiting on the balcony saying more convincingly each time "O Romeo, O Romeo, where for art thou Romeo?" But as the people start to get restless the tone becomes "O Romeo, O Romeo, can somebody get me a different Romeo?" Similarly the authority has been given to us, God is waiting for us to step into that next scene and claim what he has already provided.

VIDEO OPTION: "Merry-Go-Round" outlines the purpose and scope Christ has in taking you out of the merry-go-round of life and placing you on the path of success.



Begin the sermon by outlining the normalcy and pattern of life we can fall into. Showcase the struggle the Israelites had in overcoming the fear of trusting in God against those of the congregation today. The Israelites were led by the pillar of fire by night and yet they lost trust in the authority God had granted them. Joshua would become the leader God called out to claim the destiny for the people of Israel. Joshua 1:1-9 outlines God's call to Joshua to lead the people into claiming the land He had prepared for them saying "I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses." God took a people who were going around and around in the desert and set them on a path to victory.

POINT #1: Walk by faith in what God has prepared: Psalm 115:16 – God has equipped you for greatness, but He won't force you into the land He has prepared (Numbers 14).

POINT #2: Leave the past behind you: Joshua 1:1-2 – God has equipped you for a future, not hindered you with a past. We can only step with faith into the future.

POINT #3: Focus on God, Not People: Joshua 1:5 – The enemies Joshua would face in the promised land would be great, but Joshua wasn't focused on the enemies but on God.

