

Sermon Study

Kingdom Under Construction - Reward
Joshua 21:1-42

July 29, 2018

vision

Eastview
Christian
Church is a
fearless church
of Christ
followers whose
ridiculous love
and dangerous
witness are
irresistible.



AUTHOR'S NOTE (summary of key points for this study)

A brief understanding of the tribe of Levi may help, so here goes!
-Levi was one of Jacob's (Israel's) 12 sons. Therefore, Levi was also the name of one of the 12 tribes of Israel. (The offspring of Levi.)
-Levi had three sons: Kohath (the Koathites), Gershon (the Gershonites), Meari (the Mearionites)
-All the Levites were called out by God to serve Him and His people. (Numbers 8:14). Aaron and his sons (of the Koathites) were called out specifically to be priests. (Exodus 28:1)

Gather (your group getting to know each other)

1. Have you ever been "called out" to do something "big" at work, school, a production, or in sports? How did that make you feel?
2. Have you ever been "called out" to do something small or insignificant; something behind the scenes? How did that make you feel?
3. In either of these situations, did it make a difference to you *who* called you to do it?

Go
(your group on mission)

As a group,
look for a way
you can serve
God together
yet this
summer.

Grow (your group growing as Christ-followers)

Key Scripture

Pray and have someone read the following scripture aloud.

Joshua 21:1-42

Discussion

1. Again we find God keeping His promises to His people, specifically to the tribe of Levi. While God did not allot the Levites a tribal landmass, God did provide for their earthly needs through the giving up by His people of pasturelands and cities.

How does this relate to our responsibilities to provide for those in full-time ministry? Discuss this in light of Dale Davis's comment on this chapter: "There is a given earthiness about all life that is no less true for those sometimes dubbed... 'God's servants.'" Helpful scriptures: 1 Corinthians 3:9-12, 1 Timothy 5:17-18.

2. Discuss some of the roles of old testament priests, using these helpful scriptures: Leviticus 4:20, 26, 31, 9:22-24, Numbers 6:22-27, Hebrews 5:1.

3. Priests served as mediators/intercessors/representatives between God and Israel. They also offered sacrifices for their own sin, and Israel's sins. Discuss how we no longer need earthy priests because of the finished work of Jesus Christ. Helpful scriptures: Zechariah 6:13, 1 Timothy 2:5, Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:23-27.

4. The rest of the Levites, the non-priests, were called out by God to serve His people in various ways. Can you name some of these roles? Helpful scriptures: Numbers 1:50-53, 3:6-9, 1 Chronicles 23:27-28.

5. The last part of 1 Chronicles 23:27-28 that says "and any such work for the House of God" (ESV) tells us that God may call us to do any work for His Kingdom. What will be our response? Helpful scriptures: Deuteronomy 10:12, Psalm 100:2, Mark 10:42-45, Luke 17:10, 1 Corinthians 12:14-21.

6. The Levites also served as teachers. Helpful scriptures: 2 Chronicles 35:3, Nehemiah 8:7-8. Matthew Henry's commentary states, "Every tribe had its share of Levitical cities. Therefore did God provide for keeping up religion among them and that they might have the Word in all parts of the land." How might God call us, as followers of Christ to "keep the Word in all parts of the land?"

Give
(your group serving each other)

Share how you are currently serving in the Kingdom and encourage each other in your various undertakings.