



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Never Assume*

Text: Joshua 9

Service Date: November 17, 2024

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- Since your group met last, how has God been speaking to your heart? Do you find you've just been going through the motions or seen specific ways in which He's been moving?

Sermon Discussion

- Paul started the sermon saying that purchasing a cell phone is one of the most painful and aggravating purchases that he's done. What's been the most painful/aggravating purchase you've ever had? Have you ever made a purchase you regretted?
- Assumptions can be dangerous for all involved. What are some assumptions you think society has about Christians? Why do you think these assumptions exist?
- Christians are not exempt from the temptation to make assumptions about others. Why do you think satan works so diligently to trap us into making assumptions of other people or their situations? What is satan's ultimate goal in all of it?
- Paul discussed the daring deception the Gibeonites pulled on Joshua. In what ways does the world deceive people to keep them from becoming followers of Christ?
- Even a great leader like Joshua was deceived. Deceptions can sneak up on us unless we stay on "guard". Have you ever been tempted to believe or fall for a deception? What was the deception and how did you respond?
- What can happen to our faith if we don't remember Paul's two applications he left us with: 1) Never assume your faith journey will be without

difficulties, and 2) Never assume God's grace will eliminate the consequences of your mistakes?

- Why should we never assume that satan is keeping his distance from us?
- We can be forgiven for a mistake, but the consequences are unavoidable. Why wouldn't God prevent consequences for any of our forgiven offenses?
- In your own faith walk, what are areas that are better understood now that, when you began following Him, you had misconceptions about (i.e. "Following Jesus will be easy", "I don't need to serve to be used by God", "I can stay connected to a church and not be involved", etc.)?
- Is there someone God has placed upon your heart that needs you to not only pray for them but also be a spiritual encourager?

Resources

Book: *The Ink is Dry* by Rubel Shelly

Have you or someone in your group experienced a Story of Life Change?

We'd love to hear about it! In fact, one of Tri-Village's values is "Stories of Life Change". Visit tri-village.org/yourstory and share how God worked.