

CALLED EQUIPPED SENT



Joshua

A Character Study

1. Calling – Formed by God’s Presence

Joshua’s calling was shaped long before it was announced.

He lived through the Exodus, the plagues, the Red Sea, and forty years of God’s daily provision. His faith was not theoretical; it was forged by sustained exposure to God’s power and faithfulness. While others drifted, Joshua stayed close. As Moses’ assistant, he accompanied him partway up Sinai, remained loyal during the golden calf rebellion, and lingered at the tabernacle when others left. His calling was born in proximity to God.

Even his name tells the story. Originally Hoshea (“salvation”), Moses renamed him Joshua (“Yahweh saves”), marking a shift from human hope to divine deliverance. His identity became anchored not in his ability, but in God’s power to save.

Joshua’s calling, then, was not first to lead—but to believe, to remain, and to trust.

2. Equipping – Proven by Faith and Preparation

God does not send the unformed; He equips the faithful.

Joshua’s faith was tested publicly when he and Caleb stood against the fear of the other spies. While the majority saw giants and walls, Joshua saw promises and a faithful God. This was not optimism—it was trained spiritual vision, developed through years of watching God work.

When Moses died, Joshua did not step into leadership suddenly. He had already been prepared through decades of apprenticeship, observation, obedience, and spiritual

maturity. His wisdom, courage, and steadiness were not gifts of the moment but fruit of long formation.

God had been shaping a leader who trusted His Word more than circumstances.

3. Sending – Commissioned with Courage and Humility

When the time came, God personally commissioned Joshua to lead Israel into the Promised Land.

Joshua did not attempt to become “the next Moses.” He embraced his own role, his own calling, and his own style of leadership. His strength was not imitation but submission—humble dependence on the same God who had led before.

As commander, he combined military strategy with unwavering confidence that victory belongs to the Lord. His courage flowed from conviction, and his authority from obedience.

Joshua was sent not merely as a general, but as a servant-leader who knew that the battle—and the land—belonged to God.

Summary

Joshua’s life reveals God’s pattern:

- **Called through nearness to God and shaped by divine revelation**
- **Equipped through faithful endurance, spiritual insight, and tested obedience**
- **Sent with humble confidence to lead God’s people into promise**

Formation produced faith.

Faith produced readiness.

Readiness produced leadership.

Joshua stands as a model of a man who did not rush his calling, did not resist his equipping, and did not shrink from his sending.