

Letter from Pastor Brandon
Parenting Seminar
Women's Retreat
Group Life
Sermon Overview

March
2021

PEACE in the promised land

Developing completely committed followers of Christ who: KNOW – GROW – GO



North Main

North Main exists to:
*Develop completely committed
followers of Christ who*

KNOW Christ intimately
GROW in Christ continually
GO for Christ daily

Our mission is centered in the process of discipleship where Jesus commands his followers to:

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.
Matthew 28:19-20 NLT”

Strong and Courageous

By Brandon Lenhart

Imagine that you're facing a future of promise and opportunity. There is nowhere to go but up from where you are. The world is your oyster, and all your problems are melting away in the possibilities that lay ahead of you. Your confidence is high, your will is strong, and your joy is complete.

This was Joshua's story. After having lived in the wilderness just outside of the Promised Land for 40-years along with the Israelites, he (and they) now stand face to face with their destiny. They have learned from their past mistakes, they have learned about God's patience and mercy, and now they are learning that God is true to His word and promise.

In the Old Testament book of Joshua, chapter one, the great friend of God and leader of the people of God has died, and Joshua (son of Nun) has accepted the roll and authority of leadership in his place. Standing on the banks of the Jordan River just to the east of the Promised Land, God speaks to Joshua with words of encouragement and exhortation. He is to be "strong" and "courageous" on this journey marked out before him as he leads the people into the Land of Promise.

Now, I don't know about you, but I might still have a few doubts; not about God, but about myself. My tendency is to second-guess my abilities and worth in light of what God has called me to. This isn't God's fault, but rather my insecurities.

Knowing human nature, God instructs Joshua, not once, not twice, but three times in the first 9 verses of the book of Joshua to

be strong and courageous. The first time God says this to Joshua is to declare an affirmation of Joshua's role and position as God's leader for this specific time period in history as a continuation of the ongoing story of God's love and redemption for His people.

The second instance of God's instruction to be strong and courageous was to remind Joshua that he was not going in his own strength and power, but rather in the strength and power of God with the Word of God as his compass pointing him and the people of God ever-forward in obedience and faith to God.

The third instance, and capstone, of God's instruction to Joshua to be strong and courageous was the most significant because God promises Joshua that "...[He] will be with [him] wherever he [went]."

If you were Joshua, how would you fair? Would you step into God's plans and promises? Would you be strong and courageous? Would you be obedient to take a leap of faith into the unknown knowing that God would be with you wherever you went?

Today, God is calling His people (as He always does) to be strong and courageous. There is a Land of Promise that we have been called to known as the Kingdom of God; it is a land flowing with "milk" and "honey." And, though there are dangers and difficulties in our journey—though there are unknowns along the way—God reminds us (His people) that He will be with us. So, it's time for God's people to be strong and courageous as we embrace all that He has for this year knowing that He is with us!

**Be strong and
courageous... for
the LORD your God
is with you
wherever you go.**

Joshua 1:9



www.northmaincog.org



[/northmaincog](https://www.facebook.com/northmaincog)



[@northmaincog](https://www.instagram.com/northmaincog)



724.285.4214



[@northmaincog](https://twitter.com/northmaincog)



info@northmaincog.org



Mon-Thu 9am-4pm

IF: GATHERING

Women's Retreat

March
5th and 6th

HIS KINGDOM IS COMING. WE WANT
HIS WILL TO BE DONE ON THIS EARTH
AS IT IS IN HEAVEN AND OUR HEART
AND PRAYER IS THAT "ON EARTH AS IT
IS IN HEAVEN" STARTS WITH US. AND
WE WOULD STOP WONDERING IF IT IS
POSSIBLE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.

IT'S POSSIBLE. THIS YEAR, AT
IF:GATHERING 2021, WE ARE GOING
TO TALK ABOUT HOW WE DO THAT.

Friday 6:30-9pm

Saturday 9:15am - 4:15pm

Cost \$20/per person

Snacks, coffee, drinks, lunch & materials
provided

**For more details
and to register (required)
please visit our website
under EVENTS or scan
this code to take you to
that page.**



GROUP LIFE

Pastor Christy Pittman
ChristyP@northmaincog.org

Please call the church office with any questions
or to register.

Get Out of Your Head

Sunday AM Group LC 3
Study by Jennie Allen open to Anyone
Leader(s): Noel Jack
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:00 AM

Keenagers

Sunday AM Group
Open to anyone 60 +/-
Leader(s): Clifford Cooper Lee Hillwig Cleo Clark
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:15 AM

Knit, Purl, Pray

Prayer Shawl creation. Knit, Crochet, Sewed, etc.
Leader(s): Carol Oesterling
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:00 AM

Men's Group

Sunday AM Group
Men's Group
Leader(s): TJ Wittlinger
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:00 AM

Men's Recovery

Meets every other Tuesday starting February 9th.
Life Center Room 3. Reviewing the 10 chapters of
"Overcome" by Clayton King.
Leader(s): Men's Recovery Group Leader
Day: Tuesday
Time: 6:30 PM

Study Through The Gospels

Sunday AM group LC 4
Stand-alone lessons open to anyone
Leader(s): Sarah DiFrischia/Lydia Anthony
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:00 AM

When Helping Hurts

Learn how to help those in need without hurting or
enabling them. Life Center Room 2
Leader(s): Rachel Wilson
Day: Sunday
Time: 9:00 AM

Women's Recovery

Meets every other Tuesday starting February 9th.
Life Center Room 1. Reviewing the 10 chapters of
"Overcome" by Clayton King.
Leader(s): Women's Recovery Group Leader
Day: Tuesday
Time: 6:30 PM

FAMILY LIFE

Pastor Melissa Hickman

MelissaH@northmaincog.org

Heart & Soul PARENTING^{seminar}

Sunday, March 28th 12:00-3:00 pm

It's easy for parents to get bogged down with financial stress, busy schedules, and the everyday grind of keeping their family on schedule. While running them to school, sports, and activities, we can lose sight of what matters most. This seminar is a journey into our God-given opportunity as parents to connect with our kid's hearts through relationships and guide their souls through spiritual influence. No guilt trips! Just straight encouragement, practical ideas, and truth from God's Word. In this seminar, we will:

- Create new patterns in your family where you yell less and communicate more.
- Learn how to have real conversations with your kids that build connections around what they're thinking and feeling.
- Make room in your relationship for your kid to get to know you and your heart.
- Think through ways to offer them the discipline they need without destroying your relationship with them.
- Find practical ways to develop your kids' trust so they will open up to you about their fears and struggles.
- Identify the blind spots where you might be hurting the relationship with your kids without realizing it.
- Discover the spiritual superpower God has given to you as a parent that you can unleash in your family.

At the end of our parenting journey, what most of us want is to say that we have a loving relationship with our kids and that we introduced them to the real purpose of life found in our faith. Let's invest some time together, making sure we have a plan in place to make that happen! Cost is \$10 per family for the seminar only or \$15 for the seminar and kids activities.

You can Register by:

- Scanning this code with your phone!
- On our website under the events tab
- Calling the church office.





PEACE *in the promised land*

In this issue >>>

*Letter from Pastor Brandon
Parenting Seminar
Women's Retreat
Group Life
Sermon Overview*

As we continue our reading challenge through the Bible this year, in the month of March we explore the Promised Land and the historical narratives of the Israelites as they become a people—a nation—with a land to call their own. Over the four Sundays this month we will explore the theme: *Peace in the Promised Land* as we look at the following:

- **March 7**—"Courageous Peace," (Joshua 1:1-9): *There is peace in the promises of God.*
- **March 14**—"Obedient Peace," (Judges 6:1-32): *Peace comes through obedience to God's calling on our lives.*
- **March 21**—"Parting Peace," (1 Samuel 20:1-42): *The bond of peace is shown in loyal friendship.*
- **March 28**—"Peace through Confession," (2 Samuel 12:1-25): *Confession of sin allows peace to take root in a person's life.*