



## Small Group Notes

### Text:

Joshua 7.1-26

### Title:

Compromise and the promise

Mighty Jericho has fallen but the next city is the small city of Ai surely from now on the conquest is going to be straightforward

1. The Defeat
2. The Discovery
3. The Death
4. The Door

### Reflect

1. From either listening to the sermon and / or reading the text, what most impacts you from the passage? What did you feel the Holy Spirit most speaking to you about or impressing upon you?
2. When things go wrong in our life or we have set backs what is our attitude to God? Do we hide, grieve, get angry or frustrated or go and speak to Him about why this happening to you?
3. Was the defeat at Ai part of the punishment or could Joshua have avoided this by talking to God before going into battle and discovering Achan's disobedience?
4. Was the punishment necessary and just? Was it fair for the whole family to be included? What are we being reminded by the Holy Spirit through this episode about the nature of God the Father?
5. The Valley of Achor was a symbol of how the wages of sin lead to death and judgement. What are you discovering in this series about your own sinfulness and the value of your pardon through the death of Jesus?

### Respond

1. How can we be more intentional about going to God and asking for a biblical perspective on why we are going through trials and difficulties? How can we help each other do this or is it purely personal?
2. Can you take time to do what Ben did and accept that we were destined for eternal death until Jesus stepped into our lives and took our death and exchanged His life for us? How much praise and worship does Jesus deserve for this? How could daily thankfulness for this give us a fresh perspective on our trials?
3. The story was about broken relationships with God and ignorance of how sin can spoil. Ask the Holy Spirit when and if your own relationship with Him can be more of a dialogue in the week.
4. Are you willing in discipleship groups to be open to discovering any hidden sin or impediment in your own life that grace and repentance can wash away?

### Optional further study

Look at **Hosea 2:14-15** how does this door of hope get fulfilled by Jesus. Take some time to meditate on your own condition before God if you did not know Jesus and how merciful He has been to us all who know Jesus as our Lord.