Waiting between Ai and Bethel A Study in The Book Of Joshua Joshua 8:1-9 November 4, 2018

1. God <u>identified the feelings</u> that were inhibiting Joshua and the people of God.

Now the Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid or be discouraged. - Joshua 8:1a HCSB

2. God <u>comforted</u> and <u>encouraged</u>. Now the Lord said to Joshua, "Do not be afraid or be discouraged. - Joshua 8:1a HCSB

3. God gave a <u>direct command</u>.

Take the whole military force with you and go attach Ai. Look, I have handed over to you the king of Ai, his people, city, and land. Treat Ai and its king as you did Jericho and its king; you may plunder its spoil and livestock for yourselves. Set an ambush behind the city." - Joshua 8:1b-3 HCSB

- 4. God is all about <u>blessing our obedience</u>, even directly after turning back to him from sin and failure. you may plunder its spoil and livestock for yourselves. - Joshua 8:2b HCSB
- 5. Sometimes the plan will <u>look un-orthodox</u>. Set an ambush behind the city. - Joshua 8:2c HCSB
- There are <u>levels</u> of <u>authority</u>.
 He commanded them; Joshua 8:8b. Follow the Lord's command-see that you do as I have ordered you." 1 Peter 5:1-7 HCSB
- 7. Sometimes it will <u>seem</u> like our <u>savior</u> is <u>far from us</u>. So Joshua sent them out and they went to the ambush site and waited between Bethel and Ai, to the west of Ai. But he spent that night with the troops. - Joshua 8:9 HCSB
- 8. In the waiting He <u>deals with our junk</u>. *I waited patiently for the Lord, and He turned to me and heard my cry for help. He brought me up from a desolate pit, out of the muddy clay, and set my feet on a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord. -* Psalm 40:1-3 HCSB

knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. But endurance must do its complete work, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing. - James 1:3,4 HCSB

I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord. - Psalm 27:13-14 NASB