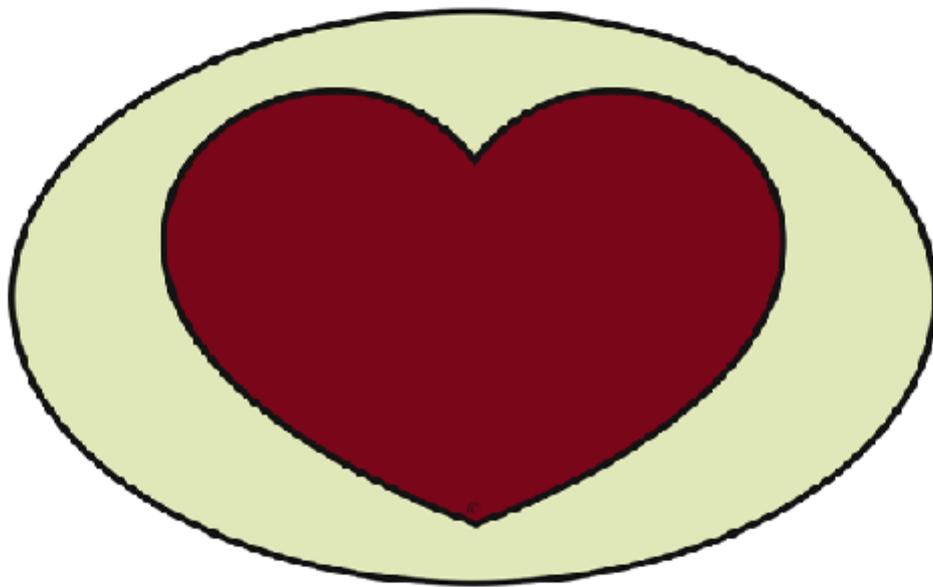


**“We’re here to
serve”**



8/8

Serving in the Land

(Just as God promised)

Take Home Sheet – Years 1 to 3

Bible Story Summary

What to do in the Land, Joshua 24

God promised to give the Israelites the land of Canaan. He kept his promise. The Israelites crossed over the river Jordan into the land, just as God promised, because God stopped the river. The Israelites took over the land, just as God promised. They won battle after battle after battle because God was fighting for them. Then once God had given them the land they divided it up. The Promised Land was shared out between all the people. That's when Caleb wanted to go and get the piece of land he was given. It all happened just as God promised. But what next? The Israelites had the land. God had given it to them. The land had been shared out. What should they do in the land? Joshua gives us the answer. In the last chapter of the book Joshua gathers together all the Israelites to speak to them. Joshua said 'God has given us the land, so we should serve him'

Joshua gave the Israelites an example of what serving God is like. He said to the Israelites, "Throw away the gods your forefathers worshipped beyond the river and in Egypt and serve the LORD". The Israelites could not serve God and have other gods at the same time. That is silly. That is not serving God. That is not loving God. That is not obeying God. All the Israelites had a choice to make that day. Now that God had given them the land would they listen to Joshua and choose to serve God? Or would they serve other gods? The Israelites said to Joshua, "We will serve the LORD!"

It's the same today. God has not promised to give us the land of Canaan. God has made an even better promise. God says that everyone who trusts in Jesus will be given a place in heaven. Heaven is going to be even better than the Promised Land of Canaan. Heaven will be a whole new creation. A whole new world created by God. God will give a place in heaven to all who trust in Jesus. What should we do on earth before we go to heaven? Just like the Israelites were told to serve God, we should trust God and serve him with all our heart too.

ACTS Prayer

- A We praise you God that you always keep your promises
- C We confess we do not deserve a place in heaven
- T Thank you that you give a place in heaven to anyone who trusts in Jesus
- S Please help us to trust what you have promised and serve you with all our heart