

## Here I am: But how can God use me?

Isaiah 6:8 NLT .... Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?"

### 1. By taking action.

- **Isaiah 6:8** NLT ... "Then I heard the Lord asking, 'Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?' I said, 'Here I am. Send me.'" 9 "And he said, 'Yes, go, and say to this people: Listen carefully, but do not understand. Watch closely, but learn nothing.'"
- **Joshua 6:1-5** NLT ... 1: "Now the gates of Jericho were tightly shut because the people were afraid of the Israelites. No one was allowed to go out or in." 2 "But the Lord said to Joshua, 'I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors.'" 3 "'You and your fighting men should march around the town once a day for six days.'" 4 "Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark, each carrying a ram's horn. On the seventh day, you are to march around the town seven times, with the priests blowing the horns." 5 "'When you hear the priests give one long blast on the ram's horn, have all the people shout as loud as they can. Then the walls of the town will collapse, and the people can charge straight into the town.'"
- **Joshua 6:6-8** NLT ... 6 "So Joshua called together the priests and said, 'Take up the Ark of the Lord's Covenant, and assign seven priests to walk in front of it, each carrying a ram's horn.'" 7 "Then he gave orders to the people: 'March around the town, and the armed men will lead the way in front of the Ark of the Lord.'" 8 "After Joshua spoke to the people, the seven priests with the ram's horns started marching in the presence of the Lord, blowing their horns as they marched, and the Ark of the Lord's Covenant followed behind them."

### 2. By putting God first.

- **Isaiah 6:8** NLT ... Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me."
- **Joshua 3:1-6** NLT ... 3 Early the next morning Joshua and all the Israelites left Acacia Grove and arrived at the banks of the Jordan River, where they camped before crossing. 2 Three days later the Israelite officers went through the camp, 3 giving these instructions to the people: "When you see the Levitical priests carrying the Ark of the Covenant of the Lord your God, move out from your positions and follow them. 4 Since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you. Stay about half a mile behind them, keeping a clear distance between you and the Ark. Make sure you don't come any closer." 5 Then Joshua told the people, "Purify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you." 6 In the morning Joshua said to the priests, "Lift up the Ark of the Covenant and lead the people across the river." And so they started out and went ahead of the people.
- **Exodus 20:3-4** NLT ... 3 "You must not have any other god but me. 4 "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea.
- **Proverbs 3:9-10** NLT ... 9 Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. 10 Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.
- **Genesis 4:3-5** NLT ... 3 When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. 4 Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift, 5 but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.
- **Matthew 6:33** NLT ... Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need.
- **Joshua 3:4** NLT ... Since you have never traveled this way before, they will guide you. Stay about half a mile behind them, keeping a clear distance between you and the Ark. Make sure you don't come any closer."
- **Joshua 3:14-17** NLT ... 14 So the people left their camp to cross the Jordan, and the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Covenant went ahead of them. 15 It was the harvest season, and the Jordan was overflowing its banks. But as soon as the feet of the priests who were carrying the Ark touched the water at the river's edge, 16 the water above that point began backing up a great distance away at a town called Adam, which is near Zarethan. And the water below that point flowed on to the Dead Sea until the riverbed was dry. Then all the people crossed over near the town of Jericho. 17 Meanwhile, the priests who were carrying the Ark of the Lord's Covenant stood on dry ground in the middle of the riverbed as the people passed by. They waited there until the whole nation of Israel had crossed the Jordan on dry ground.
- **Proverbs 3:9-10** NLT ... Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the best part of everything you produce. 10 Then he will fill your barns with grain, and your vats will overflow with good wine.

### 3. By staying focused despite opposition.

- **Proverbs 4:25-27** NLT ... 25 Look straight ahead, and fix your eyes on what lies before you. 26 Mark out a straight path for your feet; stay on the safe path. 27 Don't get sidetracked; keep your feet from following evil.
- **Acts 5:12-16** NLT ... 12 The apostles were performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers were meeting regularly at the Temple in the area known as Solomon's Colonnade. 13 But no one else dared to join them, even though all the people had high regard for them. 14 Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women. 15 As a result of the apostles' work, sick people were brought out into the streets on beds and mats so that Peter's shadow might fall across some of them as he went by. 16 Crowds came from the villages around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those possessed by evil spirits, and they were all healed.
- **Acts 5:17-21** NLT ... 17 The high priest and his officials, who were Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. 19 But an angel of the Lord came at night, opened the gates of the jail, and brought them out. Then he told them, 20 "Go to the Temple and give the people this message of life!" 21 So at daybreak the apostles entered the Temple, as they were told, and immediately began teaching. When the high priest and his officials arrived, they convened the high council—the full assembly of the elders of Israel. Then they sent for the apostles to be brought from the jail for trial.
- **Acts 5:27-29** NLT ... 27 Then they brought the apostles before the high council, where the high priest confronted them. 28 "We gave you strict orders never again to teach in this man's name!" he said. "Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!" 29 But Peter and the apostles replied, "We must obey God rather than any human authority.
- **Acts 5:41-42** NLT ... 41 The apostles left the high council rejoicing that God had counted them worthy to suffer disgrace for the name of Jesus. 42 And every day, in the Temple and from house to house, they continued to teach and preach this message: "Jesus is the Messiah."