

# Session 4

Turn Your Defeat in to a Victory

# Defeat at Ai

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Achan's sin (Joshua 7:1; 7:20-21) - Temptations are real (Joshua 6:17-19)

- Consequences of sin - Defeat, Discouragement, Death
  - Defeat at Ai (Joshua 7: 2-5)
  - Discouragement (Joshua 7:6-7)
    - Joshua rent his clothes
    - Fell to the earth upon his face
    - Put dust upon his head
    - Alas! *"Would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!"*
    - *"O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!"*
    - *"what wilt thou do unto thy great name?"*
  - Death (Joshua 7:22-26) [Observe - the contrast between Rahab and Achan]

# Turning a Defeat into a Victory

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What defeat looks like?

|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Joshua rent his clothes   | Grief, shock, dismay            |
| Fell to the earth upon his face   | Shame                           |
| Put dust upon his head  | Worthless                       |
| Alas! "Would to God we had been content, and dwelt on the other side Jordan!"     | Regret, Guilt, self blame       |
| "O Lord, what shall I say, when Israel turneth their backs before their enemies!" | Desperation, Weak, helplessness |
| "what wilt thou do unto thy great name?"  | Hopelessness                    |

# Turning a Defeat into a Victory

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## Steps to turn defeat into a victory

1. Do not blame -
  - Do not blame God (defeat is not because God failed)
  - Do not blame yourself
2. Get up (Joshua 7:10)
  - Be gracious in defeat and humble in victory (Proverbs 24:10)
  - Defeat will not finish, but quitting will
3. Take action (Joshua 7: 11-13)
  - Recovery is costly and painful
4. Go to the same place (Joshua 8:1)
  - Do not commit the same mistake
5. God fights for you and gives victory (Joshua 8:18)
6. But you stretch out the sword (Joshua 8:18)
7. Thank God - Give God glory and honour Him for the victory (Joshua 8:30)



# Turning a Defeat into a Victory

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Victory makes you:

# With God All Things Possible!

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In the book of Joshua, humanly speaking, many things would seem impossible.

But with God all things possible:

1. Genesis 18:14 - Is anything too hard for God,
2. Jeremiah 32:27 - Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?
3. Zechariah 8:6 - Thus saith the LORD of hosts; If it be marvellous in the eyes of ... people..., should it also be marvellous in mine eyes? ...
4. Matthew 19:26 - With God all things are possible,
5. Luke 18:27 - What is impossible with man is possible with God.

(Mathew 17:20; Mark 9:23)

# Make Thy Way Prosperous - Victory

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1. Trust God (Faith in God's Promises) - Have faith in His promises, even when the path is uncertain
2. Read, Hear and Keep the Word of God - The Word of God is your foundation, your compass, and your source of life.
3. Follow God (God is with you) - don't walk alone. Even when you face obstacles, remember: in God's hands, barriers become gateways and obstacles become stepping stones.
4. Obey God (Victory is through God only) - True victory comes not by striving, but by surrendering to God's will. Obedience positions you for success.
5. Remove Sin (Through repentance) - Repentance restores alignment with God's heart and clears the way
6. Do not quit (you can turn a defeat into a victory) - Defeat isn't the end — What looks like defeat can become a testimony. Through God, every defeat can become a lesson that leads to victory.
7. Be strong and courageous in the Lord (Move forward boldly) - Strength comes from knowing who goes before you — and courage comes from knowing that God never leaves you.

# Questions for the Counselling Session -4

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1. What things are trying to defeat you now?
2. Are the steps of turning defeat into victory, sound practical to you? If yes, how?
3. What are then specific sins you would like to confess today?
4. You have heard about the contrast between Rahab and Achan. Choices decide the destiny. Are your sins forgiven or are you saved? Have you testified in waters of Baptism? If yes share about your experience or else share on what is holding you from doing so?