



'Don't Stop Short'

Ice-Breaker:

- Share a time when you either quit or simply stopped short of doing something, and later regretted it. What did you learn from that experience?

Questions:

1. Read Joshua 6:1-2.
 - Why do you think God speaks in past tense (*"I have delivered Jericho"*) even though the battle hasn't even happened yet?
 - What does this teach us about the promises God has made to all believers in the New Testament?
2. Read Joshua 6:1. One reason we stop short of God's promises is because our perspective gets blocked. A fortified city with barred gates seems intimidating, until you realize the Bible says it was locked up *"because of the Israelites."*
 - Discuss this statement: *"If something is tightly shut in your life, it may not be a sign you're not getting in, but that the enemy is trying to keep you locked out."*
3. Read Joshua 6:6-14. Another reason we stop short of God's promises is because our progress isn't always obvious.
 - How do you think the soldiers felt after marching around the city for 6 days with no results?
 - Share an area of your life that you've been working on for years, but have not seen any real progress (parenting, finances, a habit, etc.). Why is it so difficult to keep moving forward when you don't see any progress?
4. Another reason we stop short of God's promises is because the process is open-ended (we don't know how long it's going to last). Discuss the following statements:
 - Walk it out (do God's will) even when it doesn't work out.
 - Outcome is God's responsibility; Obedience is yours.
5. Read Hebrews 11:30; Hebrews 11:6. Why is faith imperative in the Christian walk?

Application:

- Whatever your struggle, commit it daily to God in prayer and keep marching on. Act like every lap is your last... and one day you'll be right.