

Radical Encounters - Joshua

Suzy Bates

Joshua 5:13-15

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Reflection & Discussion Questions

When you encounter Jesus, you don't often get what you expect, you get what you need

Read and discuss Joshua 5:13-15 (NIV)

¹³ Now when Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw a man standing in front of him with a drawn sword in his hand. Joshua went up to him and asked, "Are you for us or for our enemies?"

¹⁴ "Neither," he replied, "but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." Then Joshua fell facedown to the ground in reverence, and asked him, "What message does my Lord have for his servant?"

¹⁵ The commander of the Lord's army replied, "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy." And Joshua did so.

*What is surprising about this encounter? Are you familiar with theophanies or Christophanies?

*What do we learn about God here?

*What do we learn from Joshua's response?

There is no question that God is on our side

The question is whether WE are on God's side.

*Why is this distinction so important? What does it mean that He is for us, but wouldn't always take our side?

*When have you tried to drag Jesus into your battle instead of joining him where he is?

We can confuse ideology with spirituality

*What is the difference between the two? Why is it so easy to confuse them?

*What kind of battles does ideology engage us in? Spirituality?

*What would it look like to move from valuing winning to valuing staying in the game?

*What part does fear play?

Spirituality is driven by unity

Read and discuss Romans chapter 14.

*What does this chapter reveal about people?

*Where does it point us in our relationships with others?

*How are you being prompted to respond?

*What do you sense about the battles you are fighting?